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No. 7775.—Vol. L. *TUESDAY EVENING, FEBRUARY 18, 1890.* *Price One Penny.*

TO-NIGHT'S ENTERTAINMENTS.

DRURY LANE (The National Theatre).
MONDAY, TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY, and SATURDAY, at 1.30, and EVERY EVENING, at 7.30, AUGUSTUS HARRIS'S Pantomime, JACK AND THE BEANSTALK, produced on a scale of splendour surpassing in magnificence the displays offered to the public by Mr. AUGUSTUS HARRIS in twenty years, and performed by a Company of Comedians each of whom is an acknowledged attraction in himself—Messrs. Nicholls, Lano, Lauri, jun., Griffiths Brothers, Conquest, jun., Leonold Brothers, Abbs, Payne (Clown), and Campbell; Misses Vernon, Faudelle, Hewitt, Abeza, and Duggan. Box-office open from 10 A.M. all day.

HAYMARKET THEATRE.
(Lessee and Manager, Mr. H. BERNSTEIN TREE.)
TO-NIGHT, at 8.30, A MAN'S SHADOW, by Robert Buchanan. Mr. TREE as LAROQUE and LUVERSAN. Messrs. Fernandez, Kemble, C. Collette, E. M. Robson, Allan, Hargreaves, Tapping, Gurney, Haverley, Julia Neilson, Miss Minnie Terry, Miss Norreys, and Mrs. Tree. At 7.40, GOOD FOR NOTHING: Miss Norreys. Doors open 7.30. Box-office open 10 till 5. Pit Circle (unreserved) 2s. 6d. Gallery 1s.
MATINEE of A MAN'S SHADOW SATURDAY NEXT and following Saturday, at 2.30.

LYCEUM THEATRE.
(Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. HENRY IRVING.)
THE DEAD HEART—A story of the French Revolution. TO-NIGHT at Eight o'clock (132nd time). Mr. Henry Irving, Mr. Hermann Vezin, Mr. Stirling, Mr. Righton; Miss Phillips, and Miss Ellen Terry. Box office (Mr. I. Hurst) open daily 10 to 5. Seats can also be booked by letter or telegram. Carriages, 10.45.—LYCEUM

CRITERION THEATRE.
(Lessee and Manager, Mr. CHARLES WYNDHAM.)
THIS EVENING, at 8.30, OUR BOYS. Mr. David James, Mr. Leonard Boyne, Mr. Arthur Elwood, Mr. E. W. Gardiner; Mesdames Olga Brandon, E. Brunton, F. Frances, E. Vining. Preceded by, at 7.50, SWEETHEART, GOODBYE. Messrs. Scott Buist, H. Saker, G. Stanton, L. Chaytor; Mesdames E. Terriss, E. Brunton, E. Vining. Doors open at 7.30. N.B.—MATINEE of OUR BOYS SATURDAY NEXT, at 2.30. Doors open at 2 o'clock.

GAIETY THEATRE.
TO-NIGHT, at 8 punctually, KUY RUY AND THE BLASE ROUE. Miss Ellen Farren, Miss Maisie Hood, Miss Sylvia Grey, Miss Linda Verner, Miss Blanche Massey, and Miss Letty Lind; Mr. Fred Leslie, Mr. Fred Storey, Mr. Dalton Somers. Doors open at 7.30.

TERRY'S THEATRE.
(Proprietor and Manager, Mr. EDMUND TERRY.)
(Manageress, Miss GRAHAME.)
TO-NIGHT, at 9, NEW LAMPS FOR OLD. Messrs. W. S. Penley, Bernard Gould, W. Lestocq, and F. Kerr. Mesdames Olga Grahame, Houston, and Gertrude Kingston. At 8.15 THE PARTING OF THE WAYS. Mesdames M. A. Giffard, Helen Leyton, Rose Dearing, Oscar Adye, and J. Nelson. Doors open at 8. Carriages at 11. Box Office open 10 till 5. Acting Manager, Mr. H. J. BRICKWELL.

TOOLE'S THEATRE.
TO-NIGHT, at 8, THE BUNGALOW, by FRED HOWSER. The great success of modern times. Recently with tenor of laughter and thunder. No explosion. At 8.15, ON TOAST. Doors open 7.45. MORNING PERFORMANCE EVERY SATURDAY, at 2.15. Doors open at 2.

ADELPHI THEATRE.
(Lessees and Managers, Messrs. A. and S. GATTI. Sole Proprietors and Managers.)
THIS EVENING, at 8.0, LONDON DAY BY DAY. Immense success. 13th Night. Mr. George Alexander, Messrs. Maclin, J. D. Beveridge, Shine, Lionel Rignold, W. L. Abingdon, Theo. Balfour, M. Bode, H. Russell, James East, W. Northcote, J. Northcote, &c.; Mesdames Alma Murray, Mary Rorke, Kate James, Charlotte Ellice, and Clara Jecks. Doors open at 7.0. THE MARRIED BACHELOR, at 7.45.

VAUDEVILLE THEATRE.
(Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. THOMAS THORNE.)
THIS EVENING at 8, LES SURMENE. Mr. Thomas Thorne, Messrs. T. B. Thalberg, Cyril Maude, Oswald Yorke, J. S. Blythe, Harbury, F. Grove, F. Gillmore, and Fred Thorne; Mesdames Winifred Emery, Mary Collette, C. Owen, A. Dyer, F. Wemyss, Lily Hanbury, Eliz. Banister, &c. MATINEE of CLARISSA SATURDAY NEXT, at 2.30.

THE GLOBE THEATRE.
(Lessee and Manager Mr. F. R. BENSON.)
EVERY EVENING at 8, MACBETH. EVERY MONDAY, TUESDAY, THURSDAY, and FRIDAY, at 8, A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM, with the Mendelssohn Incidental Music.—Messrs. Brydone, Major, Benson, Ross, Howard, Athol Forde, Dacre, Weir, Phillips, Tomkins, Grenville, Stuart; Mesdames Grey, Ferrar, Dene, Geraldine, Townsend, Woodiwiss, Melchissedec, and Miss Mather. MATINEES EVERY WEDNESDAY and SATURDAY at 2.30. N.B.—THE TAMING OF THE SHREW on THURSDAY and FRIDAY EVENINGS at 8, and NEXT THURSDAY AFTERNOON at 2.30.

PRINCESS'S THEATRE.
MASTER AND MAN.
TO-NIGHT, at 7.45, HENRY PETTITT and GEORGE R. SIMS powerful play, MASTER AND MAN, in which the following popular artists will appear:—Messrs. Henry Neville, J. H. Barnes, Robert Pateman, Brandon Thomas, Sidney Howard, Charles Dalton, Bassett Roe, Fred Shepherd, Geo. Dalziel, E. Mayeur, E. Webster Lawson; Miss Edith Bruce, Mrs. Frank Hensley, and Miss Bella Pateman. Doors open 7.15. Commence 7.45. Box-office (Mr. A. Frye) open daily from ten till five. Seats at all the libraries.

PRINCE OF WALES' THEATRE.
(Lessee and Manager, Mr. HORACE SEDGER.)
TO-NIGHT, at 8.15, MARJORIE. Miss Phyllis Broughton, Mdme. Amadi and Miss Camile d'Arville; Messrs. Charles Collin, Joseph Tapley, Henry Ashley, Frederick Wood, Allen James, T. A. Shale, A. T. Hendon, and Harry Monthouse. Preceded at 7.30 by JOHN SMITH. Morning Performance EVERY SATURDAY at 2.30. Telephone No. 5,700.

CARRICK THEATRE.
(Lessee and Manager, Mr. JOHN HARE.)
THIS EVENING, at 8, LA TOSCA. (LAST 4 PERFORMANCES.) Mesdames Bernard Beere, Rose Leclercq, Bessie Hatton, Walter, Hendon, Harwood, Waring, Sidney Brough, Gilbert Farquhar, Lawrance D'Orsay, C. Dudsworth, C. Hudson, F. H. Knight, F. Powell, R. Power, S. Pringle, R. Harding, and J. Forbes Robertson. Address applications for seats to Box-office, open from 10 A.M. to 9 P.M. Doors open at 7.30 P.M. MATINEE of LA TOSCA, FRIDAY NEXT, February 21, at 2 P.M. precisely. Seats can now be booked. Acting Manager, Mr. C. G. COMPTON.

SHAFTESBURY THEATRE.
Messrs. E. S. WILLARD and JOHN LART, Lessees and Managers. Proprietor, Mr. JOHN LANCASTER
THIS EVENING at 8, THE MIDDLEMAN.
Mr. Willard, Messrs. Mackintosh, E. W. Gordon, H. Cane, H. V. Esmond, Ivan Watson, Cecil Crofton, Rosiere Keith; Mesdames Maude Millett, Amy Roselle, E. H. Brooke, Annie Hill, St. Arge, Eva Moore, &c. Box-office now open daily, 10 to 5. Doors open 7.40. Carriages 11. Acting Manager, Mr. W. H. GRIFFITHS.—SHAFTESBURY THEATRE.

LYRIC THEATRE.
(Sole Proprietor and Manager, Mr. HENRY J. LESLIE.)
TO-NIGHT, at 8.30, THE RED HUSSAR. Mesdames Marie Tempest, Birdie Irving, Maud Holland, H. Coveney, and Florence Dysart; Messrs. Ben Davies, Alec Marsh, Albert Christian, A. Le Hay, Frank M. Wood, and Arthur Williams. Preceded at 7.30 by WARRANTED BURGLAR PROOF. MATINEE EVERY SATURDAY at 2.30.

COMEDY THEATRE.
TO-NIGHT and EVERY EVENING at 9 P.M., the celebrated Comedy PINK DOMINOS, adapted by JAMES ALBERY, with powerful cast, including Messrs. Herbert Standing, Alfred Maltby, A. Bouchault, &c., and C. H. Hawtrey; Mesdames Gaisberg, Robertson, Cowell, Alma Stanley, and Rose Saker; preceded, at 8, by ONE SUMMER NIGHT, by F. W. Broughton. Box office open daily from 10 A.M. to 10 P.M. Telephone, 3,724.

COURT THEATRE.
(Proprietors, Mrs. JOHN WOOD and Mr. ARTHUR CHUDLEIGH.)
TO-NIGHT at 8, 150th performance of AUNT JACK. Mr. Arthur Cecil, Mr. Weedon Grossmith, Mr. Eric Lewis, Mr. F. Mervin, Mr. Fred Cape, Mr. A. Ayresworth, Mr. W. Philips, Mr. F. Farren, Mr. Powell, Mr. W. Quinton; Miss Rosina Filippi, Miss Florence Wood, and Mrs. John Wood. At 8.35, TO THE RESCUE, Mr. R. Bolcyn, Mr. F. Farren, Miss M. Harrington and Miss Phelps.

AVENUE THEATRE.
(Under the Management of Mr. GEORGE ALEXANDER.)
TO-NIGHT, at 8, FOOL'S MATE. At 9 o'clock, DR. BILL.
Messrs. Frederick Terry, Nutcombe Gould, Benjamin Webster, Geo. Canel, Henry Gratian, and Albert Chevalier; Mesdames Kolosa, Carlotta Leclercq, Marie Linden, Mary Kingsley, Gracie Murielle, Laura Graves, Edith Leonard, and Fanny Brough. Doors open 7.40.
MORNING PERFORMANCE EVERY SATURDAY at 2.30.
Doors open 2 o'clock. Box office open daily from 10.30 till 5.
Business Manager, Mr. R. D'ARCHIAC.

ALHAMBRA VARIETY THEATRE.
"ASMODEUS," at 9 o'clock, and "OUR ARMY AND NAVY," at 10.50. Signoras Tessone; Mdlles. Saracco, Marie, Thorgani, and Spotti, and Signor De Vincent. Vanities by Marie Collins, the Eddy's Troupe, Lotto, Lilo, and Otto, Geo. English, and JAMES FAWN. Open 7.40 until 11.30.

EMPIRE THEATRE.
Commence at 8. Two Grand Ballets. At 9.0 THE PARIS EXHIBITION. At 10.20, A DREAM OF WEALTH, by M. SAINT LANDER. Music by M. LEOPOLD WENZEL. Mdlles. Palmiano and Bethune, Sisters Lupino, and Signorina Maria Simonis. Mdlles. Carolagh. Grand Variety Entertainment. At 10, Miss Amy Roselle will recite THE DANDY FIFTH; A STORY OF THE AMERICAN CIVIL WAR," by FRANK GARSAWAY. No free list.

ROYAL Holborn.
GRAND HOLIDAY PROGRAMME.—Special engagement of Lockhart's performing Elephants, C. H. Blackmore, the popular actor and vocalist; Lydia Yeamans, queen of song; Bibb and Bobb the funny Continental clowns; the Manzonis, in a novel musical absurdity; Yeatons, the wonderful Jap; the Brandfords, American variety artists; Ottaway and Pepper; Abe Daniels, musical clown; Dora Fieldes, Lindley, Lynne, and Lauri, the world-famous Arthur Roberts Quadrille. Grand Burlesque dancers; Sam Torr; Deane Brand, operatic vocalist, Maura, Equestrienne; G. Berecini; Count Prof. Wingfield's Dogs; Bridgay, jungler, and others.
EVENINGS at 7.40, SATURDAY MATINEE, 2.30. Prices of admission from 6d. to £3 3s.

THINGS MR. SMITH FORGOT TO SAY.

A MORE feeble course than Ministers have decided to take on the Report could not be conceived. It is neither one thing nor the other; neither straightforward all round, nor downright unscrupulous. Ministers propose to express no opinion, but do not dare to keep silence altogether. They do not condemn or congratulate either the accused or the accusers, but fill up the time with an uncalled-for expression of thanks to the Judges for not being unjust—a compliment which we hope those gentlemen will appreciate. Alike in shirking the real issues and in going off at an unnecessary tangent, Mr. SMITH'S Resolution is a thoroughly flabby and nerveless production. And it will meet with the fate reserved for its kind. "We hope," says the *Daily Chronicle* this morning, in commenting on Mr. SMITH'S announcement, "that we shall soon be able to feel that the Report, "like Mr. GLADSTONE'S Home Rule Bill, 'is dead and buried.' The "episode to which it refers is not one which we wish to keep in "remembrance, and when the Commissioners have been thanked "for their services the matter may, with advantage, be laid to rest." Our contemporary's hopes are doomed to disappointment. The form of the Government's Resolution which moves the adoption of the Report opens the floodgates of interminable discussion on every line of the 120 folio pages of which that Report consists. Most of those pages bristle with controversial matter, and several are disfigured by mistakes. To criticise the Report minutely will be not merely an opportunity, but the duty, of the Irish members. Unless Ministers alter their tactics, they must be prepared to see the discussion of the Report supersede all other business this session. Probably they would prevent this result by closuring a discussion initiated by themselves, and getting the Speaker to subsequently veto any further debates on a subject thus disposed of. But the odium attaching to this course, the odium of protecting the Report from criticism by means of the closure, would be hardly less disastrous for Ministers than the postponement of their programme for the session! The prospect before them, therefore, is not a pleasant one. But they have no one to blame for it except themselves, and even now they can, if they choose, escape the consequences. And they can do it without any offence to their *amour propre*. Their Resolution can stand as it is; all that they need do is to accept the Rider which the Opposition is bound to move.

The form and the contents of this Rider are as good as settled beforehand by the conditions of the case. "The charges on which the respondents have been acquitted must," says the *Standard*, "be kept perfectly distinct from those on which "they have been condemned." We entirely concur in that statement, and it is in the logical following out of such a distinction that the nature of the required Rider is to be found. What, then, in the first place, are the charges on which the Respondents have been acquitted? Lord DUNRAVEN, speaking last night at New Cross, made the astonishing statement that the Report "fully justified and carried out all that was contained in the publications of the *Times* with one exception." The Unionists are preparing, we see, a cheap edition of the Report. Lord DUNRAVEN, we hope, will be among the earliest purchasers, for it is very clear that he has not read it. The forged letters were the basis not for one charge, but for most of the charges that had any novelty in them at all. The charges from which the Respondents have been cleared are as follows:—(1) That they founded their whole organization on murders—not, as the chivalrous Attorney-General said, that they did the murders themselves, for "they had not the time," but that they incited and paid others to do the deeds. (2) That (to again cite the falsehood of the Attorney-General) "during "the whole period there was not one solitary speech amongst "the thousands delivered in which any one of these men deprecated the outrages that were undoubtedly going on." (3) That if ever they did denounce any crime, the denunciation was not sincere. (4) That they were intimately associated with notorious criminals and paid them to escape from justice. Those are the charges against all the Respondents from which the Report wholly and absolutely clears them. As against Mr. PARNELL in particular, we have to add three more charges:—(5) that he dealt with SHERIDAN and BOYTON as known outrage-mongers; (6) that he was an accessory in the Phœnix Park murders; and (7) that he gave BYRNE money for escaping to France. Such are the charges of which the Respondents are acquitted. It will surely seem incredible to any fair-minded English gentleman, not poisoned by party prejudice, that Ministers should propose to "adopt" the Report in which their fellow-legislators are cleared of those charges, without adding a single word of satisfaction. It is this unpardonable omission which the first clause of the Opposition's Rider must supply. It must express the satisfaction of the House that the Respondents have been cleared from atrocious charges alleged against them by the *Times*. It will be for the Opposition to move the Rider; but it will express sentiments which have already been aired on the other side. "Indeed, I treasure the traditions of the House," said the Attorney-General on Saturday. "I wish," said the First Lord of the Treasury on Tuesday, "on behalf of myself, of right hon. gentlemen on "this bench, and on behalf of all those who sit on this side of "the House, to express our detestation of the acts committed and "our immeasurable satisfaction that the hon. gentleman has been "relieved absolutely and completely from the imputation under "which he was placed." It will be for Mr. SMITH when the Rider giving expression to his feelings is moved to convert his "wish" into reality, and for Sir RICHARD WEBSTER to carry out his "indeed" in deed.

The case for a second clause to the Rider is equally clear. This must deal with the charges on which the Respondents have been condemned by the Judges, the charges—namely, (1) of "separatism" (against some of them); (2) of conspiracy and intimidation to reduce rents; (3) of circulating the *Irish World*; (4) of defending and supporting persons accused of crimes. Now all this is, of course, purely political matter. It is an old story and a political story, and has indeed been the commonplace of political controversy for eight years at least. Ministers propose to "adopt" what the Report decides on such questions. Very well; but then they must adopt also what the Report expressly omits. "We must leave it," say the Judges, "for politicians to discuss, and for statesmen to determine, in what "respects the present laws affecting land in that country are capable of improvement, and we must confine our researches to the "question whether the Respondents or any of them have been "guilty of the things charged and alleged against them; we have "no commission to consider whether the conduct of which they are "accused can be palliated by the circumstances of the time, or "whether it should be condoned in consideration of benefits alleged "to have resulted." What the Judges thus throw upon the politicians, the politicians cannot shelve back upon the Judges. In order, therefore, to make the "adoption" of the Report clear, consistent, and logical, the Rider must go on to say that "with "regard to the charges of 'conspiracy,' &c., established against the "Respondents, the House agrees with the Judges in regarding the ultimate decision on these matters as one for politicians to determine." If Ministers are prepared to adopt some such double-barrelled Rider as we have drawn up, then the adoption of the Report need consume no great space of time. If, on the other hand, they adhere to their shuffling expedient of adoption *sans phrase*, they must be prepared for many nights to elapse before the Shades of PIGOTT are "laid to rest."

THE ELDORADO OF THE TRANSVAAL:—II.

SOME TRUTHS ABOUT ITS PRESENT AND FUTURE.

(FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT IN SOUTH AFRICA.)

WE saw, in treating "of reefs and pennyweights," that the gold lies in the Randt in enormous quantities. And yet Johannesburg does not pay. It is true that some companies, which are more favourably situated, are declaring sound dividends, that forty thousand ounces of gold are registered every month, and that steadily, if slowly, the amount is increasing. But taken all round Johannesburg exists on a colossal Tick. It flaunts like a man who does not pay his tailor's bills. The "pockets" of gold which the Johannesburger has found are those of the investor in London, Cape Colony, and Natal. More thousands have been put into the ground than will come out of it for many a year to come; and many are the concerns that will never pay interest even on that fraction of their capital which has not been fooled away. The Randt, in fact, is like a man who has borrowed largely from his bank on scrip. When his overdraft reaches a certain point, he has to sell out at

STAGE AND SONG.

Managerial dissensions have been the order of the day at the Royalty of late, and each member of the Dean-street triumvirate has been obstinately pulling his own way. In consequence of this want of harmony the run of "Tra la la Tosca" will be brought to a close next Saturday. This somewhat sudden termination of what was supposed to be a fairly successful season will of course necessitate the shelving of Messrs. Burnand and Solomon's "Domestic Economy," which was almost ready for production. These collaborators, by the way, are now at work upon a musical version of a French farce, and they also have a three-act comic opera upon the stocks.

* * * * *

Mr. Savile Clarke has just written for Miss Amy Roselle a soul-stirring recitation on the subject of the siege of Lucknow. The poem, which will be heard at the Empire in about a week's time, should appeal strongly to the patriotic feelings of the music-hall public, for it will be accompanied by the lively skirling of a band of pipers which Mr. George Edwardes has engaged to illustrate the famous march of the Highlanders upon the beleaguered town.

* * * * *

I hear great accounts of the continued success of the Kendals in America. At Boston the advance booking had reached the substantial sum of £3,000 before they arrived, and other theatrical centres have been greeting "Madge" and "Will" in the same cordial manner. They are particularly gratified by the fact that "business" is even better on their second visits than on their first. In all probability they will be back in England—with increased experience and several sacks of dollars—by the middle of May.

* * * * *

"The Favourite of the King"—to which, by the way, the name of Mr. F. S. Boas should be attached as well as that of Mr. Jocelyn Brandon—will be produced at the Comedy for a series of matinées somewhere about the 10th of March. In addition to Miss Dorothy Dene and Miss Annie Rose, important parts have been allotted to Mr. Bassett Roe, Mr. Lawrence D'Orsay, and Miss Ellaline Terris, while the "Favourite"—otherwise George Villiers, Duke of Buckingham—will be played by Mr. Royce Carleton.

* * * * *

Prospective arrangements at the Haymarket are now a little more settled, for it was definitely decided on Saturday last to replace "A Man's Shadow" soon after Easter with the new play by Sydney Grundy, as to which I gave some details last week.

At present March 6th is the date fixed upon by Mr. Frank Benson for his first London appearance as Hamlet. In the meantime "A Midsummer Night's Dream" is flourishing like the green bay-tree; It is true that Miss Kate Rorke has had to relinquish the part of Helena and devote herself to the interests of the Garrick and "A Pair of Spectacles;" but her place is now filled by Miss Dorothy Dene, who plays the character with considerable charm and effect, though perhaps with a trifle too much weight. Shakspeare's fairy comedy, by the way, will be the *pièce de résistance* at the Globe throughout the season.

* * * * *

"The Red Hussar" will be performed for the 100th time on March 3. The occasion is to be celebrated by a ball to be given at the Marlborough Rooms by the lessee of the Lyric.

* * * * *

Messrs. Albert Chevalier and John Beauchamp—both clever actors—gave a most successful smoking-concert at St. James's Hall on Thursday night. The programme could hardly have been more judiciously selected, and much harmony and tobacco were indulged in until an advanced hour.

* * * * *

Mrs. Langtry has so far recovered from her recent indisposition as to fix a date for her revival of "As You Like it." This will—all things permitting—take place next Monday. The Jersey Lily has really been very ill, and anything but the *malade imaginaire*, which I have heard some ill-natured people call her. Those who ought to know say she has been suffering from measles; though, if this is so, I cannot imagine why she should have concealed the true character of such a nice, ladylike complaint.

* * * * *

Wonders will never cease! The Novelty has actually remained open for a whole fortnight and some odd days. One would not have thought that "Our American Cousin," interpreted by an unknown company, would be a very strong dramatic card to play in Great Queen-street; but the cheap prices adopted by Mr. George Turner have evidently had a beneficial effect, and the prospects of the forlorn little theatre are really looking up.

* * * * *

The next big ballet at the Empire will be founded upon the subject of the "Lorelei."—The first "Middleman" tour commenced last night at Southport, Mr. C. W. Somerset appearing as Cyrus Blenkarn.—A new musical farce, entitled "The Sentry," written by Messrs. Malcolm Watson and Felix Remo, and composed by Ivan Caryll and H. I. Leslie, will shortly go into the bills at the Lyric as a first piece.

R. U. E.

a loss. The investor is like the bank, he is beginning to think the tick of Johannesburg too long. Wait a bit, my friend, and consider the facts.

II.—OF GETTING OUT THE GOLD.

I have said that at present they are only getting half the gold in the ore. But the point is that even that half they cannot get out at a decent profit. According to the best idea I can form, the present cost of production is—For mining, about 15*s.*; for milling, about 11*s.* to 13*s.*; altogether about 27*s.*, or adding cost of development, shafts, &c., say 33*s.* or 35*s.* a ton. It follows that with gold at 3*l.* 9*d.* a dwt. it costs 9 dwts. to get out the seven or eight of the main reef. In other words the largest and most regular mass of ore in the Rand: cannot as a whole be worked but at a dead loss, and its certain wealth of gold is lying idle—a reserve property awaiting happier conditions. Till then, those companies which have richer ground must keep the pot boiling with that; and even then the margin is often a matter of a penny-weight or two, which vanishes at the first touch of a refractory ore.

What are the causes of all this? They are these, and on their removal depends the future of the Eldorado of the Transvaal:—

(1) The traveller to the City of Gold is dragged and jolted thither over the stones and through the *spruits* of the open *veldt* in a coach bowled along by five or six pair of beasts. Fresh relays of mules or horses are "in-spanned" every hour or two. At some of the stages there will be a farmhouse, and rough Dutch fare. The night, perhaps, he will be glad to spend on a mud floor; and three days and two nights are spent upon the road. The whole adventure is not unpleasing if you escape the extremes of dust and floods. But it is expensive, especially if you take luggage. And as you spin along, you keep passing the long lumbering teams of oxen, twelve to a waggon, and you realize that every hundredweight of everything of which Johannesburg is made or with which it works has come 330 miles by just such transport. I have seen the waggons loaded with heavy machinery, great blocks of iron, sticking up to the axle-trees in mud. And having seen that, though I cannot with the Johannesburgers stand rapt in admiration of the jerry-built brick and stucco palaces which are replacing in his broad, red, dusty, unkept streets the iron sheds of a previous stage of development, though I cannot pretend to think the place is beautiful except under the charitable mantle of twilight, I can and do marvel that such a place is here at all. Where three years ago there stood half a dozen policemen's huts, there is to-day a city of 35,000 men—and even a few ladies. But look at the cost. A mill which costs in England £1,000, by the time it is set up here has cost perhaps £3,000. "Deals"—the indispensable means of propping the mine passages—cost at Durban 4*d.* the ¾ ft.; on the Randt, 1*s.* 8*d.* to 2*s.* And so on with food for men, forage for beasts, and every other thing which in the wilds of Africa must be brought from one place to another. The ton that might come by rail from Natal at £7 10*s.* costs as things are £18 10*s.* The consequence is that it takes at present £10,000 to open up and equip properly fifteen to twenty claims. These conditions are absurd. The gold industry of the Transvaal is crushed under the ox-waggon of the Boer. In one word, it must have railways. Up to the Randt Cambridgeshire would compare with the *veldts* as mountainous. Half a dozen lines would by now have been racing to their goal from both the colonies but for the stern ordinance of President Kruger, who will not hear of any other sleeper being laid in his territory until those of the Delagoa Bay line—his cherished dream—have reached the edge of the High Veldt. How many months or years that may be no one knows. It is true that contracts have already been given out to six different companies. Is there no other hope? I will not here broach the Swaziland question. But the Cape Colony and Natal, confident of the future, are both pushing forward extensions to the President's borders. In six months after the Bloemfontein Extension reaches the Free State capital, it will touch the frontier of the Transvaal. From there the waggon route to the Randt will be but forty miles. Once given free way half a dozen railways will compete for its favours, prices will fall 50 per cent., coal will be 15*s.* instead of 35*s.* a ton, and Johannesburg will be saved.

I have now shown how the Randt suffers for want of Railways; what prospect there is of that obstacle being removed; and what effect its removal will have on the future of the Randt. This is the first and cardinal point.

(2) The *uitlander* in the Transvaal is saddled with excessive taxation, unrepaid in public works. I say nothing here of the 25*l.* poll-tax. But besides heavy duties on nearly every article of consumption, and monopolies in all the rest—including even dynamite, the price of which is thus doubled for the miner—there is a transfer duty of 4 per cent. and a tax of £1 a month on every claim. A claim, let me explain here, is 150 feet along the reef by 400 feet across, and is pegged out, according to the dip, mostly on one side or the other. The outpacht, or mining park, was devised to reconcile owners' rights with the rights of every one else to have a dig at the gold. When a farm is proclaimed, the owner may mark out about a tenth of it where he pleases. The rest may be bought by A, B, or C in claims, and D may "jump" any claim which they let drift into arrears in any of several ways. Large companies have either many claims or a *mynpacht*. Reforms of the laws as to "jumping" are loudly called for; but the Gold-law generally is too well framed to be counted among obstacles to progress.

(3) But it is fair, I think, so to classify the great Boom which swept last year from Johannesburg to London. If there ever comes the crash which a few croakers predict it will be by lineage direct the child of the Boom. What it was in London, London knows. Here, every man laid down his last to take to share-gambling, doctors left their patients to die, and turned brokers. The Opposition leaders left the House of Assembly at Cape Town to Sir Gordon Sprigg and *trekked* to Johannesburg. A penniless linendraper made and lost first £70,000, then £100,000, and now has an overdraft of £90,000 with useless scrip. Others who "off-loaded" in time are millionaires. How many of the companies floated day by day for weeks in London were genuine? I asked authorities in London; I have asked again here. One in seven, it seems, is allowed a chance. For the benefit of the farmer, the army and navy man, the widow with an annuity, and the parson with trust money which he thinks he will club with his own for twenty or thirty per cent., companies were started with properties miles away from the Randt, whose only connection with it was some name-sake, *vlei* or *fontein*, on the spot. Companies were started with no property at all beyond the area of their prospectus sheets, which never ran any machinery but that of the printing press, and yet left their directors rich men. Genuine companies were floated and re-floated with vendors' money and promoters' fees out of all proportion to the working capital, which was "watered" to utter attenuation. Scraps of rich ore were greedily crushed while the mine proper went to rack and ruin. Every one, except the genuine expert, who was generally wanting, was paid at five times the rate current in company promotion on any other fields. The temptations were so great that few indeed failed to have a finger in the pie. Now, with chagrin, many of them regret the good shares they have sold at a fancy price to find themselves left with rubbish which would be dear at any. The natural result is following. There are still 400 brokers. They are 200 too many. Depression is upon them. The ground lost by gambling and mismanagement has slowly and painfully to be regained by honest developing work.

(4.) One last point I will mention. The inflated price of labour is one of the details which will come down. Everything here, from your hotel to your daily paper, is absurdly dear. But in connection with the emigration of labour, these figures of current weekly wages are of interest: Carpenters, £5 to £6; fitters, £6 to £8; miners, £4 to £6; engineers, £5 to £7, for eight to twelve-hour shifts. For a working man who at home gets 20*s.* to 25*s.*, spending most of it on food and house-rent, there is certainly an attraction about the prospect of perhaps £6 or even £7 and a freehold on mine property, while 25*s.* will keep him. But these rates will certainly fall very soon to a normal of perhaps £3. It may then be worth while to replace by the skilful white many of the unskilful Kafirs who now get 15*s.* to 20*s.* a week for very bad work. To any smart, bold fellow who brings his craft in his hand, I say, come to Johannesburg; the building lot prices—surest evidence of local faith—bespeak no very long depression. But a laggard here will find nothing to do but drink himself into his coffin, which can be managed pretty quickly on the Randt.

If hopes were false, fears may be liars.

I hope I have now set out some plain truths enabling the reader to form his own view of the future prospects of the Eldorado of the Transvaal.

(The preceding letter from South Africa, containing the first portion of "The Eldorado of the Transvaal," appeared yesterday.)

SHROVE TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 18th.—How to make Pancakes. Halfpound of flour, one cupsoonful of BORWICK'S BAKING POWDER, and a little salt; mix well dry, add an egg or two beaten up, and sufficient milk to make a thin batter, and fry at once with lard or butter.

OCCASIONAL NOTES.

Lord Cadogan last night declined to be drawn upon the Irish Local Government Bill. The general impression will, however, be deepened that the Local Government Bill is merely introduced in desperation as a corollary of the Land Purchase scheme, in order that the Exchequer may have some buffer between the peasant and the State. If this be so, then the position of the Government is more serious than any one anticipated when the session opened. For if their Local Government Bill is the Siamese twin of their Land Bill, the chances that the latter will perish of the malady that carries off its rickety brother are so great as materially to affect our estimate of the possibilities of a crisis.

Lord Randolph as a temperance reformer has at least the charm of novelty, and as "the practice of the House" forbids any one but a Minister of the Crown to propose financial arrangements necessary for the provision of compensation to the dispossessed publicans, he is delivered from one great peril which threatens the practical legislator. His scheme seems to be a combination of high licence and the local veto. There are to be no new public-house licences granted in all England, all clubs selling liquor have to pay licence duty, and the principle of the direct veto is to be applied to small areas, "with some restrictions and safeguards." As everything depends upon what these restrictions are, we must wait for further light on the subject before venturing on an opinion as to Lord Randolph's scheme.

The Russian Government has taken a leaf from Mr. Balfour's book and M. Galken Vrasskoi has issued an order abolishing all difference in the treatment of political prisoners and ordinary convicts. We deplore this retrograde step. But before Dr. Spence Watson and his friends get up protests against the Russian prison regulations they had better make one more effort to clear our own Empire from a similar reproach. M. Galken Vrasskoi is not the first Minister to issue a decree "abolishing entirely every distinction between political offenders and common criminals," and ordering "both classes to be similarly classed, lodged, worked, and punished." The Russian order is dated March 8, 1888—just twelve months and a day after Mr. Balfour entered the Irish Office.

On Thursday the German nation elects its Parliament, the first of the new quinquennial series. But although Germany lies at our doors, although the Germans are the first nation in Europe, and the only serious rival we have as a colonizing Empire, our press has until to-day absolutely ignored the general election which will take place the day after to-morrow. The *Times* prints a long letter this morning from its Berlin correspondent on the subject, but with that exception we have all been dumb. Of course, a German Parliament is not a sovereign assembly like a French Chamber or an English House of Commons, but still the Reichstag counts for something, and, to judge by our journals, a general election in Germany is a matter of much less significance than the Carnival in Nice.

The excitement occasioned by the discovery of the victim of the West Ham atrocity adds to the anxiety felt by the parents of all missing girls. As there are always some young girls missing in London, the horrible possibility of their being decoyed into an empty house and murdered will now supersede for a time the usual explanation that of their being spirited abroad by the white-slave traders. A fifteen-year-old girl is now reported to be missing from Highgate, and her parents are full of dark forebodings as to her fate. As she is lame in the right leg and has an impediment in her speech, there ought not to be much difficulty in finding her if she is still alive and in the metropolis.

Mr. W. H. Smith last night wrung his hands in impotent despair over the plague of questions. Last year there were 5,087 printed questions on the order paper, and Colonel Hughes asked whether this year the Government could not consider the advisability of also printing the answers to the questions. Mr. Smith admitted the waste of time, admitted also the importance of shunting some at least of the questions to a correspondence with the Ministers; but, as usual, there was a lion in the way, or, rather, a jackass in a lion's skin, of whose long-drawn-out bray the leader of the House professed himself to be utterly dismayed. He said:—

It is at least doubtful whether the proposal that all answers should be printed would be adopted by the House without lengthened debate. The subject is not one on which the Government is prepared to invite the consideration of the House at present.

That answer, though characteristic, is unworthy of the leader of the House of Commons. There is no need to submit the proposal to print the answer to the House for its adoption. All that Ministers need to do is to let the rules and regulations remain exactly as they are, but to print the answers every afternoon and circulate them as the House meets. If any member were still to insist upon a *viva voce* answer, he could be indulged, just as he is now indulged, if, instead of rising and bowing when his question is called, he insists upon reading it out in full in the hearing of the House. The anticipatory printing of Ministerial answers, which leaves intact the right of members to have a spoken reply, is one which lies within the range of administrative discretion, and it need not involve the loss of a single night.

Is the lazy, underworked State official becoming a thing of the past? In a report just issued from the Commercial Department of the Board of Trade, Mr. Giffen remarks on the smallness of the staff at his disposal, "whereby the work of compilation has been retarded, and the results obtained so far have only been possible in consequence of the greatest energy, assiduity, and labour beyond office hours on the part of the staff employed." This is a contrast to the popular idea of the Civil servant who lounges in at eleven o'clock and leaves at four, with a break for lunch to relieve the strain and monotony.

Professor Tyndall has already shown us that for good, downright, unscientific bigotry in political matters, one must go to a man of science. "F.R.S." in this morning's *Times*—unless he is the Professor under an alias—gives us another instance in point. He speaks of the "forged letter" thus, in quotation marks—implying, apparently, that whatever unscientific people may say, he (like Lord Salisbury) is not going to take the responsibility of calling it a forgery. On which terms it is not surprising that this scientific luminary should go on to say that he will "never see any reason to regret the publication of that letter." It has established "so important a body of truth"! Possibly the *Times* has been hoaxed again. But if not, we hope that "F.R.S." will have the courage of his convictions, and move in his own name at the next meeting of the Royal Society that a statue be erected out of its funds to the memory of the lamented Richard Pigott, in consideration of his important services in "the establishment of truth."

The German Emperor's decrees respecting the labour question are already beginning to bear fruit in quarters where sympathy with the new proposals was least expected. The head of a well-known and important manufacturing firm near Leipsic, on reading of the Emperor's intentions, at once called his employés together, and as an expression of his delight and approval of the proceedings of William II., made them a present of £500 for founding a co-operative provision stores. After announcing the gift he added only, "So much for my own part. At the next meeting of the directors of our firm I shall propose that a larger sum be presented by the firm to its employés, and I am confident that my proposal will meet with a favourable reception." If they do these things in a green tree, what, indeed, shall be done in the dry?

*THE ANTI-VACCINATION MANIFESTO.**

THE revolt against vaccination is steadily growing. Not the least significant and influential symptom is the publication of this "critical inquiry" by the Professor of Comparative Pathology and Bacteriology in King's College, London. Though a convert to anti-vaccination views of something less than three years' standing, Professor Crookshank has the advantage of having been placed on the road by which he reached his conclusions by a personal investigation of an outbreak of cow-pox in the western counties in 1887. An extract from his preface will best show his position. "At that time," he says, "I accepted and taught the doctrines in reference to this disease which are commonly held by the profession, and are described in the text-books of medicine. In endeavouring to discover the origin of this outbreak, it was proved beyond question that the cows had not been infected by milkers suffering from small-pox. This fact, together with the clinical characters of the disease in the cows and in the milkers infected from the cows, and the certainty that I had to deal, not with an infectious disease like cattle plague or pleuro-pneumonia, but with a disease which is communicated solely by *contact*, convinced me that the commonly accepted descriptions of the nature and origin of cow-pox were purely theoretical." From this he was led to study the history of vaccination, and during the progress of his researches he succeeded in unearthing at the Royal College of Surgeons the MS. of Jenner's original "Inquiry," which was rejected by the Royal Society, and was never published, and which was found to differ very considerably from the edition he subsequently published on his own account. A close examination of the whole early history of vaccination followed, which finally led him to conclusions similar to those enunciated by Dr. Creighton in his article on Vaccination in the "Encyclopædia Britannica"—namely, that Jenner's induction was founded on insufficient data, that he was altogether mistaken as to the origin and nature of cow-pox, and that during the eighty or ninety years that have since elapsed there has been great irregularity in the sources from which so-called "vaccine lymph" has been obtained. In his present volumes Professor Crookshank's aim is to establish these conclusions by ample documentary evidence (the second volume consists entirely of reprints of essays on the subject), and as in the main he allows Jenner and his associates and successors to speak for themselves, he has put into an easily accessible form a very complete history of vaccination derived from contemporary authorities. The inquiry is dispassionately conducted, and as such will be the more likely to secure for the author a fair hearing.

In these days of almost exaggerated caution, it is difficult to realize the state of the public mind a century ago on the subject of infectious diseases in general and of small-pox in particular. The fatalistic notion, perhaps hardly yet extinct, which to Mr. Dombey's mind completely explained little Paul's numerous ailments, that "the child must necessarily pass through a certain routine of maladies, and that the sooner he did so the better," was then profoundly influential. In the words of a surgeon referring to an epidemic of small-pox that occurred at Upton, near Chester, in 1777, "no care was taken to prevent the spreading; but on the contrary there seemed to be a general wish that all the children might have it" (!), in order of course to fortify them against a second attack. At the same time variolation, or inoculation of small-pox itself, was generally practised, in the belief that a mild attack of the disease would thus be induced, and render the subject unsusceptible of subsequent infection. Vaccination was brought forward as a substitute for this, and if it did nothing else it killed variolation, and so far, one would imagine, helped to check the progress of one of the most horrible diseases that afflict mankind. It is necessary to remember this state of affairs if one would do justice to Jenner. One may admit, indeed, that there was too much of the character of special pleading in his work, and that, judging from his letters, the suspicion of a certain amount of disingenuousness in his character can scarcely be avoided. He seems often to have been more anxious about his own reputation as a vaccinator than about the strict truth of the arguments he advanced, or the perfect honesty of the methods by which he sought to gain converts to his doctrine. Notwithstanding this, however, his original aim was a noble one, and even if the ultimate issue of the present controversy should be, as Professor Crookshank hopes and believes, that vaccination will become a practice which shall retain only an historical interest, it still seems difficult to escape the conclusion that we are better off than we should have been had the old practice of variolation been continued, and if that be so, Jenner seems entitled to some share of the credit. Our author's strongest contention is that cow-pox is pathologically quite a different disease from small-pox, though Jenner called it *variola vaccina*, or small-pox of the cow, and that, therefore, even admitting the Pasteurian principle, that a mild attack of a disease artificially induced may prevent or modify a second attack, still vaccination—*i.e.*, the substitution of cow-pox for small-pox, has no standing ground. What, then, does he recommend as a safeguard? Simply compulsory notification and isolation of all cases, combined with the inoculation of the nurses in the hospital with attenuated small-pox virus; and he is optimistic enough to believe that if this practice were substituted for vaccination, which he considers to be entirely inefficacious, small-pox would in time become, if not actually stamped out, yet strictly under control. This is a consummation devoutly to be wished, but to be entirely successful the method seems to require that infection should in no case have been communicated before the disease has reached a stage in which it is identifiable, a condition which certainly does not seem to be realized in other infectious diseases. Truth to say, we seem even yet very little advanced beyond the stage of empiricism in the matter. Professor Crookshank, indeed, in his "Manual of Bacteriology," mentions a micro-fungus as found in the pustules of small-pox, but he speaks of it as doubtfully pathogenic, and until more light is shed on such perplexing questions as the primary cause of the disease, the immunity of some persons as contrasted with the extreme susceptibility of others, and the usually protective effects of a single attack, the subject can hardly be said to have been placed upon a thoroughly satisfactory and scientific basis. The attainment of this great desideratum, however, cannot fail to be aided by such investigations as those of Professor Crookshank.

* "History and Pathology of Vaccination." In 2 vols. By Edgar M. Crookshank, M.B. (H. K. Lewis.)

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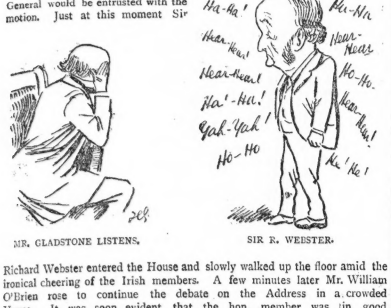
POT AND KETTLE.

IN THE HOUSE LAST NIGHT. BY AN OBSERVER.

A ROAR of ironical cheers greeted Mr. W. H. Smith when he solemnly announced that the Government would next Monday propose that the Parnell Commissioners should be thanked for their able and impartial judgment, and that the Report should be entered on the journals of the House. Mr. Tim Healy was on the spot at once, and asked whether the Attorney-General would be entrusted with the motion. Just at this moment Sir

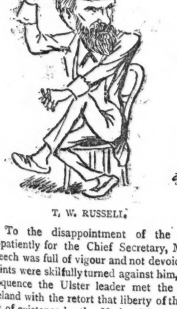


MR. GLADSTONE LISTENS. SIR R. WEBSTER.

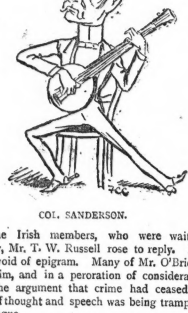
Richard Webster entered the House and slowly walked up the floor amid the ironical cheering of the Irish members. A few minutes later Mr. William O'Brien rose to continue the debate on the Address in a crowded House. It was soon evident that the hon. member was in good form. Mr. Gladstone took up a position at the end of the bench, in order not to miss any of Mr. O'Brien's eloquence. He assailed the Chief Secretary with tremendous vigour, and in the early stages of the speech Mr. Balfour for a moment forgot his philosophic calm. "Two years ago," said Mr. O'Brien, "the right hon. gentleman told us that the National League was as dead as a door-nail. Will he repeat that to-day?" The thrust went home. Mr. Balfour visibly squirmed, and then—rose to make a correction. "I only said the League was dead in the proclaimed districts." "If that is the only correction the right hon. gentleman has to make, he might as well have sat still. Nobody in Ireland knows which district is proclaimed and which is not; and nobody cares."

O'BRIEN.

Then leaving the Chief Secretary to digest this retort, Mr. O'Brien turned the full fury of his scorn on the pride of the Unionists, Mr. T. W. Russell. With hand raised to emphasize each point, and body turning freely from side to side of the House, the popular Irish hero flashed epigram after epigram at the landlord party and its Scotch supporters. "The landlords of Ireland," he said, "have to beg their money from England and their oratory from Scotland." There was a time, for a moment, when the hon. member for South Tyrone showed some slight spark of independence, some grain of feeling for the Irish farmers. When the Government refused to introduce an arrears clause, this upholder of the Union threatened mutiny, and sulked like Achilles in his tent. But Achilles' brother-in-law was made a Land Commissioner, and Achillesagin put on his armour. It is he who bears the burden of the integrity of the British Empire on his shoulders, and who is obliged to hurry back from his holiday in Switzerland lest the Empire should tumble to pieces in his absence. In a still more flippant vein Mr. W. O'Brien compared the members for Armagh and South Tyrone (Colonel Saunderson and Mr. T. W. Russell) to the bones and the banjo in a nigger minstrel company of Ulster dead heads—a little joke which all parts of the House seemed to enjoy.



T. W. RUSSELL.



COL. SANDERSON.

To the disappointment of the Irish members, who were waiting impatiently for the Chief Secretary, Mr. T. W. Russell rose to reply. His speech was full of vigour and not devoid of epigram. Many of Mr. O'Brien's points were skilfully turned against him, and in a peroration of considerable eloquence the Ulster leader met the argument that crime had ceased in Ireland with the retort that liberty of thought and speech was being trampled out of existence by the National League.

Mr. Stansfeld took up the ball, but, after the fire and vigour of the two previous speakers, the placid oratory of the member for Halifax speedily emptied the House. Towards the end of his speech, however, Mr. Stansfeld, working up into something like eloquence, contrasted the treatment he, as an English member, had recently received in Ireland, where he was allowed to travel unshadowed and to speak unreported, with the tyrannical and violent treatment meted out to Irish members in their own country and their own constituencies.

Mr. Stansfeld was followed by Mr. George Wyndham—old Liberalism by young Toryism. The next speech of any importance was by Mr. Shaw Lefevre. The right hon. gentleman congratulated Mr. Stansfeld on having received so little trouble from the police in Ireland. His own experience was different. He was constantly followed by police reporters. Even on such a complimentary occasion as the reception of the freedom of the borough of Drogheda the police were present to watch for seditious utterances. Why Mr. Balfour should suspect sedition from such a pre-eminently harmless person as Mr. Shaw Lefevre it is difficult to guess. The most inflammable revolutionaries in the world would be soothed into Conservatism by Mr. Lefevre's gentle periods.

When Mr. Lefevre sat down a burst of Conservative cheers announced the rising of Mr. Smith Barry. In a too-protracted speech the member for South Hants defended his conduct on the Ponsonby estate, and declared that all the troubles of Ireland were due to the tyranny of the National League and the vanity of its members—the same charge, *mutatis mutandis*, which the Irish members prefer against Messrs. Balfour and Smith Barry and their friends and followers. At 11.40 the adjournment of the debate was moved by Mr. Campbell-Bannerman. How much more?

LIFE INSURANCE AS AN INVESTMENT.

LIFE insurance is fast getting out of its old grooves. Even the most conservative offices find it necessary to defer to the public fancy, and vary the form in which the future can be secured. A man is no longer shut up to the old-fashioned life policy with a yearly premium till the day of his death, although he should live to be a centenarian, but he may fix the number of his payments, and thereafter enjoy personally either the capital sum for which he has insured or the annual income from the same. These endowment policies, with various options, are rapidly changing the character of life insurance. The premiums are, in many cases, no longer payments intended merely to make provision against death, but really income investments. The man with spare cash finding that, in addition to providing against the contingency of death, he can obtain a good return for his money, takes out a life policy just as he would buy Government bonds or an annuity. He is securing an income for himself as much in the one case as in the other. That men of wealth now look upon the opportunities presented by insurance companies in this light is shown by a notable case reported from New York. The well-known Havemeyer family of that city handed recently a cheque for no less a sum than 578,345 dols., or £116,000, to the Mutual Life Insurance Company of New York for insurance effected upon the lives of five members of the family. A marvellous premium truly, and probably without parallel. The policies selected were the ten-year guarantee contracts of the company, with the annuity feature added. Instead of paying the money in ten instalments, however, the Havemeyers elected to pay down the money in one sum, whereby they lessen the cost. Having bought their bonds for 500,000 dols., they will be paid that amount in the event of death, and at the end of ten years they have various options, any one of which secures to them a substantial return on their money. The favour extended in America to this form of life insurance is being also shown in this country, and we know as a matter of fact that quite a number of men of means have taken up bonds of this class with the Mutual for £10,000 and £20,000. At the expiry of the payment period these policy-holders may choose one of the following options:—(1) draw the original endowment and accumulated bonuses; (2) leave the whole moneys with the company until death, and draw annually for life 4 per cent. interest in addition to the future bonuses; (3) withdraw the bonuses only, and draw 4 per cent. on the endowment; or (4) purchase with the cash value an annual income for life. Thus these contracts are quite as much a provision for life as for death, and appeal to men of wealth as a desirable investment. Seeing that every year the demand for sound investments is on the increase, it is safe to assume that, the well-to-do will take greater advantage of these new openings, and that following the lead of the American offices, the English companies will increase their facilities for combining life insurance and investment.

The Ladies' Corner.

LADY NOVELISTS.—A CHAT WITH MRS. J. H. RIDDELL.

Seated in a charming, low-ceilinged room, I found myself (writes a representative) talking to a lady cheery and pleasant, light-haired and middle-aged, who told me in answer to my question that although she had been writing ever since, her childhood's days, yet it was not until about 1860 that, having laughingly told some friends she would write a novel about chemicals and City life, she produced her first published novel, "Too Much Alone," which all the critics—and notably Shirley Brooks in *Punch*—thought was written by a man.

"At that time," said Mrs. Riddell, "I wrote under the *nom de plume* of 'Trafford,' for it was not considered quite the thing for a lady to write in her own name. My husband was much amused one day when a man told him that he knew Trafford the novelist well, and that he was a 'very good sort of fellow, don't you know?' But though there were very few ladies writing in those days it was not a bit easier to get one's work accepted than now. All my publishers would look upon my writing as a joke at first."

"What made you take up the City as your theme, Mrs. Riddell? It seems so unlikely a subject for a woman to handle either well or technically."—"I married a City man, a civil engineer, and we used to live in Scots-yard, in the very picturesque old house in which my hero 'Austin Friars' was born. All the pathos of the City, the pathos in the lives of struggling men, entered into my soul, and I felt I must write, strongly as my publisher objected to my choice of subject, which he said was one that no woman could handle well. I used to love to go to the quiet old City churches of which people seem to know so little. In fact I was and still am heartily in love with the City. I think 'George Geith,' which came out in 1865, is my most popular book. I always find that when a City man once begins my novels he reads the whole of them, and many business people in the country write to me about them. I fancy I must have a certain sympathy with City men, their lives and hopes and struggles, for they have always spoken to me very freely about their affairs, and so to a great extent I have learned a great deal from them. I have been sharply criticised, especially by the *Saturday*, but my City matters are always right."

"Ah!" I replied, "I have often wondered how you steered clear of complications and technicalities which would frighten many men. With regard to forming 'companies' in your books, Mrs. Riddell, how do you set to work? I am perfectly well aware that many companies exist only on paper, and sometimes have not even such a tangible existence as that; but it must be difficult to conceive and establish and successfully carry out and register a company within the pages of a novel." Here I paused to take breath and await my hearer's reply. "Well, I have known a good deal about City companies; and then my husband, who was a thorough City man, would always help me through. Only once did I make a mistake, when I wound up a company which had gone wrong without taking it through Chancery. A friend corrected me here, but the critics never discovered my little error. Yes, I suppose I do know more about the City and City ways than most women; but do you not think that nowadays ladies seem to take an absolute pride in not knowing or caring about City matters, Oh! how much trouble and misery and destitution might have been saved had wives but interested themselves in and understood their husbands' business matters a little more than they have done. But there is quite an incapacity in a woman for all that lies east of Temple Bar, and the worst of it is that you cannot teach her, Yes, I usually take up one special phase of City life for each novel, I am more in harmony in describing City people. I understand them best. My books are not popular with Americans because they do not deal sufficiently with the grandees of the West-end, of whom I know but little and with whom I have the smallest sympathy. No, I am more at home amongst my City men, or, as in the case of 'The World and the Church,' amongst clergymen, who to me are a well known class. I understand men well, I have much in sympathy with them, and I always find them easier to describe than women. Men, especially young men, doctors and others, come and talk to me about their work and their life.

"I am now writing a study of seaside life called 'Greys Point,' which will come out this spring. I have not found writing very lucrative. One must write such a quantity to make it pay, and I can't do that. I must put as much good as I have in me into my books. I invariably write the end of my books first." Here I broadly smiled, it was so thoroughly a feminine confession.

TO-DAYS NEW BOOKS.

[Publishers would greatly oblige by stating the principal books. Any notices under this head do not preclude further review should such seem to be necessary.]

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OVERTON, J. H. "John Hannah." (Rivingtons.)
[A clerical study. Cloth. Pp. ix., 244.]

"THE ANTIQUARY." (Elliot Stock.)
[Vol. XX.—July to December. 4to. Pp. 284.]

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Publishers' Announcements.

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"LADIES' NIGHT" AT THE GROSVENOR.

It was "Ladies' Night" at the Grosvenor Club last evening, and the picturesque Exhibition Galleries in Bond-street were radiant and densely thronged. Among those present were Lord and Lady Herschell, Sir John and Lady Monckton, Sir Lyon and Lady Playfair, Colonel the Hon. William and Mrs. Colville, Lady Coldstwolthy, Lord Julian and Lady Goldsmid, Prince Victor Hohenlohe, Lady Lyttelton, Lord and Lady Arthur Butler, Sir Morell and Lady Mackenzie, and many others. At the concert Mdme. Isidore Martinez and Mr. Avon Saxon were the vocalists.

AN EXECUTION POSTPONED *SINE DIE*.

The High Sheriff of Limerick yesterday received a communication from the Under-Secretary postponing *sine die* the execution of Michael O'Brien, who was to be hanged at Limerick gaol on the 25th inst., for the murder of his father-in-law, having been already respited to that date from the 11th inst., for the postponement now is to enable the convict's solicitor to appeal to the House of Lords from the Queen's Bench, the decision of which in Dublin on Saturday was against the technical point raised in favour of the convict.

THE KAISER'S COUNSELLORS ON THE LABOUR QUESTION.

Among the special nominees whom the Emperor has just appointed to the Council, with a special eye to the comprehensiveness and efficacy of its deliberations on the labour question, are Prince Pless, a great Silesian magnate and master of mines; Baron von Stumm, a similar employer, from the Saarbrück coalfields; Herr Krupp, of Essen, who needs no further characterisation; Baron Von Hüne, a great Catholic landed proprietor; Count Douglas, the owner, at least, of works, of large salt and other mines at Aschersleben, near the Harz Mountains (the same Count Douglas who was really the first to give the German people some idea of the true character of their young Emperor in his pamphlet, "Was Wir von unserm Kaiser hoffen dürfen") and Dr. Hinzpeter, of Bielefeld, who acted as tutor to the Emperor, and in whom his Majesty still has unbounded confidence.

THE QUEEN'S PATRONAGE OF THE OPERA.

The Queen has intimated to Mr. Henry Bruce, managing director of the Carl Rosa Opera Company (Limited) her desire to patronise the performances during the forthcoming season at Drury Lane Theatre. Her Majesty has in addition directed her box to be reserved. The London season of the company commences on the 5th of April, and will last a month or six weeks.

THERMOMETER. FORECAST ISSUED AT 11 A.M. TODAY. BAROMETER.

South England (with London and Channel).—Easterly breezes, light to moderate; fair, cold to night.

WEATHER AT NOON TO-DAY, Feb. 18, 1890.—Fine and bright, with cold breeze.
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FOURTH EDITION.

GREAT FIRE IN WESTMINSTER BRIDGE ROAD.

WOMAN RUN OVER AND KILLED BY A FIRE ENGINE.

A FIREMAN LOSES HIS LIFE.

Shortly after one o'clock this morning an outbreak of fire of a most alarming nature, and unhappily attended by three fatal accidents, occurred in the Westminster-bridge-road. The policeman on duty when passing through Mason-street, a narrow flagged thoroughfare which affords communication between Westminster-bridge-road and Stangate, observed smoke issuing from a building forming the easterly boundary of the premises occupied by Messrs. Gay, Armstrong, and Co., skin merchants and furriers. The officer at once ran to the nearest pillar fire alarm, and called up the Southwark branch of the brigade. In the few minutes' interval which of necessity occurred before the first engine reached the spot, the flames burst through the roof of the building, and it was soon evident that an outbreak of no ordinary character would have to be dealt with.

The seat of the fire was in a block three stories in height, running parallel with the main thoroughfare, and covering a considerable area. Within a scarcely appreciable time from when the alarm was given, engines from all stations on the Surrey and Westminster side of the river dashed up in quick rotation and set to work on the flames. In the earlier moments of the outbreak a considerable crowd collected, and before a sufficient body of police arrived to form a complete cordon at some distance from the burning building, hampered the firemen in their work. They also ran serious risks from the engines, which were driven to the close neighbourhood of the flames at a high rate of speed, and amid many narrow escapes there was one fatal accident. A middle-aged woman ran across the roadway as an engine dashed along, was struck by the pole, knocked down and killed on the spot. She seemed to have been alone, as no one among the crowd knew her, and the body was suffered to remain some time on the ground before it could be removed by the police to the mortuary of St. Thomas's Hospital.

By half-past one the fire had obtained a powerful hold on the building, and the flames were rising in such volume as to be seen miles away. The traffic along Westminster Bridge-road was diverted by way of Railway-place and Great Charlotte-street. Captain Shaw was early on the scene, and under his directions steamers were set to work from all sides of the burning building. There were no less than eight engines pumping from the Westminster Bridge-road side, while in Stangate three more were at work, and in Mason-street and Felix-street others were stationed, all throwing powerful streams of water, and for a time with little apparent effect. When the fire was at its height the boundary wall of the manufactory fronting Mason-street suddenly collapsed without warning, and before the firemen who were in close proximity could run clear, Firemen J. W. Ansell and W. Crow were buried beneath the falling bricks and debris, while some other men were struck and more or less injured by fragments. Efforts were at once made to rescue the buried men, and in a few moments both were extricated, and on their way to St. Thomas's Hospital. On arriving there it was found that Crow was dead, while Ansell had received serious wounds about the head, and was kept in the institution.

Meanwhile the fire continued to make headway, burning steadily from the east to the west end of the building. It was evident that there was no hope of saving the structure, and while a steady flow of water was kept upon it, considerable attention was devoted to the protection of the adjoining buildings. On the Stangate side of the premises a cab proprietor named Wood has extensive stables, and from these, at an early stage, sixty cab horses were removed to a place of safety. This was a task attended by some difficulty, as the animals were rendered restive by the glare of the flames and the shouting of the people who surrounded the scene. The occupants of the houses on the east side of Stangate also showed much alarm, and in many cases removed their children and furniture to more secure quarters. The occupants of the shops lying between Westminster Bridge-road and the burning building also vacated their premises at an early hour, and from the back windows the firemen used their hose advantageously. At half-past three this morning the danger of the fire spreading had been surmounted, although the flames were not quite extinguished, and the only building wholly destroyed is that of Messrs. Gay, Armstrong and Co.

A representative of the *Pall Mall Gazette* visited the scene of the fire this morning, and saw Mr. Gay, the senior partner of the firm. "It is impossible accurately to state the amount of our losses at the present moment," said Mr. Gay, "but our stock was worth £22,000, and I do not think we shall be able to save a single skin. We had a large number of skins in the cellars, but many days' supply was sufficient to trim the season with us, and we have been obliged to cable to Brooklyn that we shall be unable to supply our factory there with skins. In the meantime we will have to find some convenient warehouse as a necessity to store skins now on their way to us, and as soon as ever this débris is removed we shall commence rebuilding. By Saturday we shall have taken some temporary offices, and I have this morning informed our employ.s, of whom we have three hundred in the throat out of work, that they will on that day receive their pay for work done. In the meantime our temporary address is Gay, Armstrong, and Co., care of Messrs. Siebe, Gorman, and Co., 187, Westminster Bridge-road." Mr. Gay seemed to be very cast down at the calamity which has befallen him, but found no time to grieve.

Felix-street, on which his premises fronted, was crowded with sightseers, many of whom were the employés thrown out of work. The premises run back almost to Mason-street, where the premises of the Alliance Dairy Company abut on those of Messrs. Gay, Armstrong, and Co. When the wall fell upon the firemen, Crow and Ansell, it was found necessary to break a passage through the back wall of the Dairy Company's offices in order to release them, in consequence of which some damage has been done by water to these premises. Our representative made inquiries at St. Thomas's Hospital, where he was informed that Joseph W. Ansell, the fireman who was hurt, is still living, and it is hoped that he will recover. His injuries are severe shock consequent upon fracture of the skull and cuts and bruises on the face. The firemen are still at work upon the ruins, deluging them with water lest the fire should again break out from some of the smouldering debris. The place is completely gutted, nothing remaining but the brick walls and a few charred, blackened rafters. The cause of the fire is up to the present a mystery.

SERIOUS ACCIDENT TO SIR EDWARD WATKIN.

While Sir Edward Watkin, M.P., was getting up on Friday morning at his country house near Manchester, he slipped and fell, bruising, as he thought, his side. On Sunday, however, it became clear that Sir Edward had sustained a fracture of one small rib. The "railway king" will now have to keep quiet for a time, but he is progressing favourably.

A PROTEST FROM EMIN PASHA.

The Exchange Telegraph Company is informed on good authority from Berlin that Emin Pasha has wired to his friends that he does not approve of the subscriptions which some newspapers propose to raise on his behalf, and he totally objects to the sensational articles which have lately been published in Germany with a view of creating ill-feeling between himself and Mr. Stanley. Whether he remains in Europe or goes back to the Equatorial regions is a matter which will depend greatly first on his health, and secondly on an understanding to be concluded between Germany and England, without which it is impossible for him to think of regaining his former influence with the African natives. It is no secret that Emin is longing to return to Africa, but it is greatly doubted in Berlin whether his strength, which was so greatly impaired by his last accident, will allow him to carry out his wishes.

A CATHOLIC ARCHBISHOP'S CENSURE.

In all the Catholic churches throughout Canada there was read a pastoral from Archbishop Read denouncing the attack by Catholics upon the Evangelical ladies' meeting at Hull. The Archbishop dwells upon the unchristian character of the attack, and declares it to be unworthy of members of the Catholic Church.—By *Dalziel's Agency.*

AFTER FORTY-ONE YEARS' IMPRISONMENT

TWO BRIGANDS RETURN HOME.

There have just returned to Naples from penal servitude two brigands once belonging to the famous band headed by Carravetta. They had been condemned in 1849 to hard labour for life for many robberies and assassinations. Having, however, behaved exceedingly well and expiated their crimes by quite 41 years of penal servitude, they have obtained their liberty. They are strong and robust Calabrians, who, though they have grown old in prison, have lost nothing of their native bravery. They entered prison, one at the age of twenty-nine and the other at thirty-three, and have now come out old men, absolutely new to modern life. They are quite stunned with astonishment; they scarcely believe they are free, and stumble in walking. The mark of the iron can be seen on their left ankles. They innocently asked where they could find the diligence for Cosenza, knew nothing about railways or telegraphs; and the sight of the streets of Naples intoxicated them. One said "It is paradise!" and the other "I am born this morning!" In the presence of the director announced to them that they were free, De Rosa fell as if thunderstruck, and De Cicco thought that he was being hoaxed. The latter has no relations living; but De Rosa has still two brothers, in moderately good circumstances, to whom he is going. He says he has only one murder on his conscience, that of a youth who enticed away his sweetheart, and whom he killed by repeated strokes of a dagger. De Cicco denies that he ever took part in the assassinations and robberies committed—they were only three murders and innumerable robberies—he only remembers that he once forced some peasants to provide himself and his companions with food. Such is the account given by the reporter of the *Pungolo* of these last survivors of old brigandage.

LORD RANDOLPH CHURCHILL'S LICENSING BILL.

The following outline of Lord Randolph Churchill's Licensing Bill is published:—The measure proposes to give to the popular authority—the County Council—by means of committees the sole control over licences. It contains provisions for gradually reducing the number of licences that can be granted, the policy adopted in this connection being rather in the direction of high licensing, and it seeks to prohibit the granting of new licences except where old ones are cancelled. It also embodies in a particular form, with some restrictions and safeguards, the principle of the direct veto as applied to small areas, and restricts licences to the sale of wine and beer. The second part of the bill contains provisions for the registration of clubs in such a manner as to prevent proprietary clubs from selling alcoholic liquors without licences from the licensing authority. At the same time it imposes without *bonâ fide* clubs registration fees on a gradual scale, which would in many parts of the country yield a considerable revenue to the county authorities. His lordship would have preferred that the measure should also include a scheme of compensation, but inasmuch as this would involve certain financial arrangements which, according to the practice of the House, could only be proposed by a Minister of the Crown, he was precluded from doing so.

REV. S. A. BARNETT AND THE EAST LONDON CLERGY.

Last evening the Rev. and Mrs. S. A. Barnett entertained the East London clergy and a large party of West-end friends in St. Jude's vicarage and Toynbee Hall. There was music in the drawing-rooms and an organ recital in the church, on the fine instrument recently erected by Messrs. Willis. The party was one of a series started by the late Mrs. Walsham How as a means of bringing the East-end clergy together, and judging by the animated talk of the guests at St. Jude's, last night's contribution to social intercourse was a marked success.

MR. MONTAGU WILLIAMS'S BOOK A SUCCESS.

Mr. Montagu Williams seems to have made a hit with his "Leaves of a Life." The *Daily News* hears that last week's sale alone amounted to 3,000 copies, and that the demand at Mudie's has led to the order of 1,000 copies for that library. Mr. Williams, we fancy, will not be at all ungrateful to his severer critics, who have apparently increased the interest in his reminiscences.

SARAH BERNHARDT ILL.

Sarah Bernhardt was taken suddenly ill after the matinée of "Jeanne d'Arc" on Sunday. Accordingly, no evening performance could be given.

LORD LAMINGTON'S FUNERAL.

We understand that the funeral of Lord Lamington will take place at Lamington, N.B, on Thursday.

DEATH IN THE SNOW.

An inquest was opened to-day at Tredegar, on the body of Mr. John R. Davies, of Henaddwen Hall, Bargoed. The deceased gentleman was riding alone across the cold Moeth Common on Saturday, and it is believed he fell from his horse and became unconscious. Night being extremely cold, death ensued from exposure. Mr. Davies, who was in his thirty-first year was a large landowner and was widely respected.

THE DEAN OF BANGOR ILL.

We hear that the Dean of Bangor (the Very Rev. Evan Lewis) is seriously ill at Manchester. Prayers are offered daily in the Cathedral for his recovery.

THE NORTH ST. PANCRAS ELECTION.

There is every promise of the forthcoming contest being a very close and exciting one. The Liberal candidate, Mr. T. H. Bolton, a well-known solicitor of Lewisham, and a prominent member of the St. Pancras, gained the seat from the Hon. C. Cochrane-Baillie in 1885 by a majority of 405, and in the following year lost it by 261 votes. Signs of a serious split are beginning to be observed in the opposition camp, for, besides the name of Mr. Graham, two other gentlemen are mentioned as likely to put themselves forward as candidates, these being Mr. Harding, described as manager director of the Fredential Assurance Company, and Mr. John Leighton, who will in all probability appeal to the constituency as a Liberal Unionist. Nothing definite will be settled until after the funeral of Lord Lamington. The constituency of North St. Pancras contains 6,332 voters, 5,177 of whom are householders, the balance being made up of persons holding service and lodger franchises. The area is very large.

LORD SALISBURY'S VISIT TO THE SEASIDE.

Lord Salisbury left London yesterday afternoon for Lytchett, near Bournemouth. His visit to Lord Eustace Cecil at present is due to the advice of his medical men that he should recruit his strength on the South Coast. He will be in daily communication with the Foreign Office, but will attend to only pressing business.

THE TROOPSHIP "SERAPIS'S" STRANGE MISHAP.

On the day before the last arrival of the *Seraphs* at Bombay on her outward voyage the crew were being exercised at the drill of "Man overboard," in the course of which the engines were reversed, and in going full speed astern a defect was discovered in her screw shaft. On reaching port it was decided to dock the vessel. When later the *Serapis* was being undocked she struck on the mud amidships, and for a few minutes it was feared that she would have to remain there until the next tide. Had she done so, it is doubtful if she would ever have been fit for any more trooping service, for—aground as she would have been amidships, and with nothing to support her at either end—her engines and hull would have become so strained that in all probability the ship would have become a wreck. Fortunately, however, steel hawsers were laid out astern, and by being manned, with the assistance of tugs the *Serapis* was dragged bodily through the mud, and, so far as could be ascertained, she sustained little damage beyond the tearing away of her bilge keel.

Mr. Henry Howard, C.B., our First Secretary of Legation at Pekin, has arrived in London on leave.

Mr. George Tangye, of Birmingham, has been asked to contest the Handsworth Division of Staffordshire as a Gladstonian Liberal, Mr. Wiggin, the present Unionist member, having announced his intention to retire at the close of the present Parliament.

The *Daily Telegraph* says it is authorised to state that the Queen will not be present at Earl Sydney's funeral. Sir James Boehm has taken a cast of the deceased nobleman's features for the purpose of executing busts of his lordship for Lady Sydney and the Queen.

In consequence of representations recently made to the Thames Conservators by a deputation of bargeowners and lightermen, who complain of the great delay in getting barges through Teddington Lock, it has been decided to widen the cut above the lock, and also the lock itself, to dredge the river below the lock, and to drive in piles to form a lay-by.

A very successful concert was held last evening in Princes' Hall, Piccadilly, in aid of a Roman Catholic charity. Among the artistes who kindly sang were Mdme. Clara Samuell, Signorina Della Vara, Mr. Harper Kearton, &c. Miss Hope Temple herself accompanied Mr. A. Oswald in her new song "'Tis surely Fate;" Mr. Tivadar Nachez, the violinist, was encored after his brilliant rendering an Ernst's "Elegie," and Mr. Kirwan contributed two recitations, "Lewis Morris's" Phaedra" and "Thackeray's" Miss Crumpsh Suitors."

THE GOVERNMENT AND THE JUDGES' REPORT.

THE PROBABLE COURSE OF THE OPPOSITION.

The resolution with respect to the Report of the Parnell Commission, of which Mr. W. H. Smith gave notice last night, will to-day form the subject of consultation between Mr. Gladstone and his colleagues on the Front Bench. There will be plenty of time to draw up an amendment, as the issue will not be raised till the debate on the Address is concluded, and in view of important amendments still to be moved there is no prospect of its closing this week.

According to the *Standard* it is expected that the Opposition leaders will accept the motion in substance, and propose to add words expressing the satisfaction of the House at what they allege to be the vindication of the Irish members from the graver charges brought against them. Some of the Radicals, however, are in favour of moving a direct negative. The Irish members will move amendments to the motion, with the object of omitting from the Report, as recorded in the proceedings of the House, certain passages reflecting personally on Mr. Parnell and one or two other members.

The terms of the resolution (writes the London correspondent of the *Leeds Mercury*) are not regarded by the leaders of the Opposition as of very serious importance. To the words thanking the judges the Opposition as a body will not object, but they will not allow the report to be entered in the journals without some qualification. What course Mr. Gladstone and his colleagues will take has not yet been settled, but it is probable that they will propose to add words to the resolution expressing satisfaction that from all the graver charges the Irish members have been acquitted, and attributing the existence of the illegal conspiracy mentioned by the judges to the failure of Parliament to provide adequate remedies for the grievances of the Irish people. The Irish members are disposed to go beyond this. There are the portions of the report referring to Mr. Parnell individually to which they will not allow to go on the votes of the House without a struggle. The form of the resolution raises the question in a way which allows almost unlimited scope for amendment. For instance, it is possible to move to add to the resolution words excepting from its operation almost every sentence in the Report. It is impossible to say how long the debate may last, but I should be surprised if the resolution could be carried in less than a fortnight from its introduction. Mr. Smith will certainly not be able to move his resolution on Monday, and almost as soon as the Address is agreed to the House will have to apply itself to necessary financial business.

THE ADVICE OF THE CANDID FRIEND.

The *Dublin Express* says that it would be a most lame and impotent conclusion merely to record the Parnell Commissioners' Report in the journals of the House of Commons. To expel the respondents would be the most straightforward and effective course to pursue. On the other hand, to prosecute them would in some respects be the safest, but any punitive action might cause serious inconvenience to the Cabinet. Perhaps, after all, the most courageous course to pursue would be to leave the whole matter to the judgment of the country. The Ministers ought to have thought out all the probable consequences before issuing the Commission.

The *Freeman's Journal* says:—Perfunctory advice may suit Ministers, but not the House or country. Government will find it difficult to avoid the fullest and most exhaustive discussion of the Report.

WHAT MR. CAINE, M.P., THINKS HE CAN DO NOW.

Mr. W. S. Caine is having the Commissioners' report reprinted for distribution to each of his constituents. It will (the London correspondent of the *Yorkshire Post* says) be accompanied by a letter expressing the writer's satisfaction that Mr. Parnell and his incriminated colleagues have been exonerated from the personal charges. Mr. Caine explained his position to a friend in the lobby on Monday evening in words which are characteristically epigrammatic and will live. "My position," said the honmember, "has lain in a nutshell. Until the Commission reported I could neither dine with these gentlemen nor put them in prison. Now I can do both."

RESIGNATION OF MR. HOUSTON.

Mr. Houston has sent in his resignation of the secretaryship of the Irish Loyal and Patriotic Union. A special meeting of the executive committee has been convened for an early day to consider the matter.

THE LITTLE BILL OF THE "TIMES."

The project of raising a subscription to cover the expenses of the *Times* has been mooted, but, according to the London correspondent of the *Leeds Mercury*, it finds no great favour among the Unionist party. The truth is that though they are attempting to put the best face on it, they are altogether sick of the *Times* charges, and feel that they have done irreparable injury to their own cause.

CIVIL WAR THREATENED IN CANADA.

The French Canadians are greatly excited (says a Dalziel's telegram from Ottawa) over a bill which has been introduced in the Dominion Parliament granting a charter for the incorporation of the Orange Order. *L'Etendard*, the Ultramontane organ, says that if the bill passes the result will be civil war.

MR. JOHN BURNS'S CANDIDATURE FOR BATTERSEA.—DISUNION.

Last night opposing parties on the executive committee of the Battersea Liberal and Radical Association crossed swords in a preliminary duel over the candidature of Mr. John Burns. To judge by the sentiments expressed at this meeting, the revolt against the candidature of Mr. John Burns (writes a correspondent) is really widespread; and if the question whether Mr. Burns is "to be or not to be" the candidate could have been put to the vote—which, by technical omission from the agenda paper prevented—the opposition apparently could have claimed a majority last night—a fact grasped by the president and treated with marked impartiality, especially as his own resignation was before the meeting on account of Mr. Burns's candidature. This resignation, coupled with that of Mr. Cuningham, the secretary, made the election for the coming year of a difficult and lively character, much time being thus occupied. Mr. Tyler, the chairman, explained that his chief reason for retiring was that "I am Joha Burns" appeared to be the candidates maxim—a standpoint distasteful to him (the president). Mr. Burns's actions when he was known as the "King of the Strikers," furnished another reason. The indomitable will of one man was not a factor with which they had to deal; and he resigned rather than accept the responsibility of the disunion likely to follow in the association from the candidature. Subsequently a member moved: "That, the overtures made by the Battersea Liberal and Radical Association to co-operate with the parliamentary committee to promote Mr. Burns having been rejected, this meeting hereby instructs the executive to obtain a candidate who will contest the seat on Liberal and Radical lines." This, with an amendment of confidence, brought matters to a head. Scene followed scene, both for and against Mr. Burns. His supporters contended that a recent open meeting had confirmed the selection by 83 to 13, while his opponents clamoured for a vote being taken on the subject. After an animated and prolonged discussion the chairman ruled both the motion and the amendment to be out of order, neither being on the agenda paper, and he suggested an early special meeting be called to settle the "burning question of the hour"—whether the Association should, or should not, support Mr. Burns.

HERR JOACHIM'S RETURN.

There was nothing very striking about the programme at the Popular Concert last night, except the fact that Herr Joachim made *his* appearance in London for the first time this year. In fact, the programme not only presented no novelty but contained one of the hardest ridden battle-horses of the famous violinist. That the soloist played Bach's Chaconne in D minor to perfection, goes without saying—we have heard him play it many a time and oft. The large audience applauded it to the echo, and after three returns Herr Joachim accorded the encore. The public were in a generous mood, and also welcomed the beautiful old French ariette, "Le Portrait," admirably sung by Miss Lica Lehmann, as well as Miss Agnes Zimmermann's interpretation of the three very dull examples of Scarlatti. The concert was opened with Beethoven's quartet in C major, dedicated to Count Rasoumowski, which, if it were not so beautiful, we might be tempted to say we had heard quite often enough. The appearance of the leader of the quartet was the signal for rapturous applause.

THE COMTE DE PARIS ON HIS SON'S ACTION.

The Comte de Paris on his arrival at Havannah sent the following telegram to M. Bocher:—"I am proud of my son and pleased with his attitude. The sentence passed upon him causes me deep concern." The Comte returns to New York on Thursday on his way back to Europe.—*Reuter.*

A St. Pancras vestryman yesterday appeared to answer an adjourned summons taken out against him for having unlawfully let and allowed to be occupied certain cellars as underground dwellings. He was fined at the Clerkenwell police-court £7, with £1 13. costs.

THE SOUTH LONDON GAS STRIKE.

THE REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS.

The Report of the directors of the South Metropolitan Gas Company for the half year ended December 31 last, states that the working of the half year, but for the exceptional disturbance caused by the labour agitation, would have been of the usual character, showing a good increase of business, satisfactory working in all departments, and notwithstanding an advance in the price of coke the board would probably have proposed that the dividend should be raised from 10¾ to 13½ per cent, in place of the 12 per cent which for reasons which they set forth they feel it their duty to recommend. The report proceeds to describe at length the system of working at the various gasmaking stations before and since the agitation originated by the neighbourhood men. The directors, it appears, had made various concessions, these added to very careless working on the part of the men resulted in the total cost of retort-house labour being increased 45 per cent., or nearly £40,000 a year, which is equal to a charge of 2d. per 1,000 cubic feet in the price of gas. This, it is expected, will be recovered in the course of time by the adoption of machinery and new systems of carbonizing, whereby a large amount of labour will be unnecessary, but some immediate improvement is looked for from the better spirit and the willingness to work well and honestly manifested by the new men. In consequence of the spirit manifested by the old men before the strike, the directors had quietly made preparations in anticipation of such a contingency. When the strike occurred the managers and foremen had to teach and set to work 3,000, most of them being strangers to each other and new to the work. The old stokers made on the 4th of December, the day before they gave notice 27,594,000 feet of gas; but the make on their last day December 17, was only 23,197,000 feet. The new men on their first day made 13,431,000 feet, and gradually improved. The smallest quantity of gas sent out on a week day was 16,044,000 cubic feet on Monday, December 16, whereas the ordinary consumption would have been about 27,000,000; and the lowest stock in the gasholders was 7,062,000 at midnight on December 14. Many of the new men, especially those obtained by labour agents, were not of much use, and large numbers were either discharged, left of their own accord, or were induced to leave by the strikers. Consequently for two months fresh men were constantly being brought from the country, thus delaying the resumption of regular working. But it has proved that the company can command, and knows where to obtain at a very short notice, any number of capable men. The directors assure the new men who have stood by the company that their conduct and services are most thoroughly appreciated, and that they may rely upon the directors being true to them so long as they do their duty The directors acknowledge with hearty thanks the great number of letters and other expressions of approval and goodwill received from all ranks and classes of the public. They are also greatly indebted to the press for their spirit in which the question was taken up and put so fairly and completely before the country. And last, but not least, do they thank their consumers for the forbearance, sympathy, and practical assistance so cheerfully rendered. In fact, friends were found on every side, which greatly encouraged all engaged in the struggle to do their duty; and the directors hope that good may result, not only to the company but to the community at large, especially to working men, whose right to sell their labour and to be protected in so doing on such terms as they think best for themselves, has been vindicated.

CAPTAIN O'SHEA'S ACTION AGAINST THE "FREEMAN'S JOURNAL."

In the Divorce Court to-day (writes our Dublin correspondent) Mr. Justice Butt the motion for attachment against the proprietors and publishers of the *Freeman's Journal* for contempt of court in commenting on the O'Shea *v.* Parnell divorce case while *sub judice* came on for hearing. The case had been adjourned twice because of the indisposition of Sir Charles Russell, Q.C. The Solicitor-General, Mr. Inderwick, Q.C., and Mr. Lewis Coward appeared for Captain O'Shea and Sir Charles Russell, Q.C., and Mr. Asquith, Q.C., for the defendants.

The Solicitor-General said he appeared in support of the motion for attachment against the proprietors of the *Freeman's Journal*, and Mr. John Porter, the printer and publisher, and Mr. Healy, the London correspondent of that paper, for contempt of court in commenting on the O'Shea *v.* Parnell divorce case while pending.

Sir Charles Russell asked whether it was the Solicitor-General's intention to proceed against all the three parties at once.

The Solicitor-General said he proposed to include all the parties in the motion. If his friend would select who was to be the victim he would proceed against him. (Laughter.)

Sir Charles Russell said he would prefer the Solicitor-General to proceed against the *Freeman's Journal* Company. (Laughter.)

The Solicitor-General said he could imagine many, but he thought if the parties were found deserving of punishment means could be found to inflict it. The contempt of court consisted of the publication of certain articles in the *Freeman's Journal* having reference to proceedings in that court by which Captain O'Shea sought for a divorce against his wife because of her alleged adultery with Mr. Parnell. Captain O'Shea presented a petition on the 24th of December, 1889, and on the 4th of January his attention was drawn to certain articles commenting on the case in which it was suggested that the proceedings were of the same character as the Pigott forgeries, and resorted to with the view to injure Mr. Parnell, as a sculking attempt to fight a public battle in the divorce court. The learned counsel asserted that there never was a tribunal in this country which would allow a litigant to be so assailed. He then read the petition of Captain O'Shea, stating that he had had no connection with Houston. Extracts from the *Freeman's Journal* of January 7 were also read, and urged to be an aggravation of the offence contained in the articles of January 4.

Sir Charles Russell raised the objection that the petitioner had not served copies of the paper of January 9th containing the alleged matter of contempt.

The Solicitor-General argued that, according to the construction of the rule bearing on the subject, the newspapers could not be regarded as documents.

Mr. Justice Butt said if the papers were not regarded as documents they would be proceeding pretty much as if they were playing "Hamlet" without Hamlet in it. However, as the affidavit referred to articles in the *Freeman's Journal* of January the 9th, he thought it would be farcical to stop the motion on the objection, and he allowed the extract to be read. Affidavits were read which had been made by Mr. Tuohy and Mr. Porter, practically denying their individual liabilities.

DEATH OF COUNT JULIUS ANDRASSY.

A Reuter's telegram from Volosca (Istria) states that Count Julius Andrassy late Austro-Hungarian Minister of Foreign Affairs, died there at three o'clock this morning.

A GIRLS' SCHOOL BURNED DOWN.

DEATH OF THREE INMATES.

A Central News telegram from New York says:—A disastrous fire has occurred at a girls' seminary at San Marcos, Texas. The building was consumed and three of the inmates badly burned. Thirty others sustained injuries by jumping from the windows of the burning house.

HORSE AND RIDER KILLED BY AN ELECTRIC CAR.

A Central News telegram from New York says Mr. Bradford, a wealthy citizen of Boston, whose magnificient horsemanship is quite proverbial, was riding in the streets of Boston yesterday when his horse became frightened by the approach of an electric street car, and, before its master could move it from the track or the car be stopped, Mr. Bradford and his fine animal were run down and killed.

DISAPPEARANCE OF ANOTHER GIRL.

The metropolitan police are now endeavouring to discover the whereabouts of a young girl whose mysterious disappearance from her situation at Highgate is causing great anxiety to her friends. The name of the girl is Gracs, Terrell, and her age fifteen years. Her parents reside at Woodview-cottagene Muswell-hill, and she was in a situation in the Archway-road, Highgate. One evening last week she had permission from her mistress to go home for an hour or two, and left the house presumably for that purpose. She did not go home, however, neither did she return to her situation, and up to the present no tidings have been received of her whereabouts. She is described as being of fair complexion, hair and eyes dark brown, has an impediment in her speech, and limps on her right leg. At the time of leaving her situation she was wearing a black dress, a black short jacket, a green felt hat trimmed with plaid ribbon, and buttoned boots.

THE MONEY MARKET.

One o'clock.

MARKETS STILL SLUGGISH.—SMALL BUSINESS.—LITTLE FEATURE.

There is little change of interest in the position of the Money Market. The supply of loanable capital is still small and the charge for short advances remains at about 5⅛ to 6 per cent. Operators show no disposition to depress the rate of discount, and 4⅞ per cent. continues to be the general quotation for three months' bank paper. A good deal of doubt is entertained as to what action the Bank of England directors will take on Thursday next, but the balance of opinion appears to be in favour of a reduction in the official minimum.

Stock Exchange operators continue to await the development of affairs in the Money Market, and are still doing very little in the way of new business. Yesterday's promise of a return of strength has not been fulfilled, and quotations show a weak tendency on the whole. Consols and other high-class investment stock are quiet and practically unchanged, while in the Home Railway market there is scarcely any movement apart from a renewed fall in Sheffield Deferred. Most of the changes, however are to lower prices. Foreign Government bonds are inanimate. American railroads have still given way, though not to any appreciable extent. Notice has been given in the United States Senate that the Funding Bill will be taken up on March 4. It is generally conceded that the Senate will pass the Bill. Some opposition, however, is expected in the House. Chicago despatches are conflicting on the subject of the threatened rate reduction. The freight agents are still in session. There is no anticipation that there will be any cut in rates east of Chicago. Trunks are quiet, but Mexican Railway issues have fallen slightly on the traffic for the week of £15,000.

Messrs. Heseltine, Powell, and Co. state that they are authorised to receive subscriptions for a further issue of 1,500,000 dols., being part of 6,000,000 dols. Equipment and Improvement Mortgage Five per Cent. Gold Bonds of the East Tennessee, Virginia, and Georgia Railway Company. The price is 92½ per cent., or £92 per bond of 1,000 dollars. The bonds carry interest from March, 1890, the first coupon being payable on the 1st September. Subscriptions will be received on Wednesday, and the list will be closed on or before Thursday next at 4 P.M.

The first batch of letters of allotment and regret in the Anglo-American Debenture Corporation (Limited) were posted last evenites.

Lord Hindlip will, it is reported, explain to the Allsopp shareholders on Friday that the great falling off in their profits this year is due to the use of a consignment of barley which turned out unsound beer. The loss so occasioned thereby, including carriage, are said to reach forty thousand pounds.

A Belgrade telegram states that the Skuptschina has approved the bill authorising the Government to conclude a loan of 26,500,000 f. for compensating the expropriated French Railway Company and redeeming the salt monopoly.

The Chairman of the London Produce Clearing House (Limited) indicated at the general meeting yesterday that business has so far been mainly confined to coffee, sugar, and tea. In wheat and maize, the two latest introductions, the business has been insignificant, there having been no opening for speculation in these articles. During the eight months under review their guarantee contracts have represented a value of £30,000,000 against something over £22,000,000 in the corresponding eight months, or in the twenty months since the company began business a total of £58,000,000, of which all but about £60,000 has now been liquidated. The loss of the company has been limited to £343, notwithstanding that in both coffee and sugar there had been very large and sudden fluctuations in prices. They have paid to the brokers about £50,000 in the eight months, or at the rate of £75,000 per annum, against about £30,000 in the previous twenty months.

Mr. Justice North has, on the nomination of Messrs. Hare and Co., agents for the Solicitor to the Treasury, appointed Mr. Arthur Cooper, of the firm of Cooper Brothers and Co., chartered accountants, official liquidator of the Chelsea Savings Bank.

Perry and Co. (Limited) steel pen makers, announce a dividend of 12½ per cent. for the year, as against the previous dividend of 10 per cent. (paid for the last six years). £2,500 is placed to reserve account, being the same amount as for the preceding year. The net profits amounted to £22,206.

LIVERPOOL COTTON MARKET.—The market opened quiet with a small demand Probable sales 6,000 or 7,000 bales. Futures are one point lower, with only a small business doing.

The following are the latest changes compared with yesterday's closing:—

HOME RAILWAYS.—*Improved*: South Western ⅝; Caledonian ⅜; and Hull and Barnsley ⅝. *Receded*: Sheffield Deferred ⅝; Metropolitan and South Eastern ¼; North British Preferred and Deferred, and South Eastern Deferred ⅛ each.

FOREIGN STOCKS.—*Rises*: Italian and Spanish 1-16. *Lower*: Turkish 1871 Loan and Uruguay Five per Cents. ⅛ each.

AMERICAN RAILROADS.—*Rallies*: Denver Ordinary ⅛. *Falls*: Northern Pacific Preference ¾. Louisville and Nashville shares ½, Norfolk and Western Preference ⅝, Lake Shore, Milwaukee and St. Paul, Pennsylvania shares, and Wabash Preference ¼ each, Erie Second Mortgage ⅛, the shares ⅜, and Ontario shares ⅝.

CANADIAN AND FOREIGN RAILWAYS.—*Advances*: Canadian Pacific ½, Nitrate shares ⅛, Grand Trunk Ordinary and Lombardo-Venetian 1-16. *Falls*: Mexican Second Preference ¼, the Ordinary ⅛.

MINES AND MISCELLANEOUS.—*Receded*: De Beers 3-16 and Rio Tinto 1-16.

The following are this day's 1 o'clock prices of the principal STOCKS and SHARES—

BRITISH FUNDS, ETC.		
Consols (2½) money	97¼	⅜
Do account	97⅜	⅜
Do. 1903	100⅛	⅛
2½ per Cent	95	⅛
Local Loan Stock	102⅛	⅝
India 3½ per Cent	104	⅛
Do 4½ to 5 do	103½	⅛
Egyptian Guar.	101¼	⅜
Met. Bk. Wat. 4	114¾	¼
Do 1. do 3 per c	102	⅛
Birmingham Corp. St.	103	11
Liverpool	112½	⅛
FOREIGN STOCKS.		
Argent. 6 pct 1133	81	¼
Do 5 pct Stg	85¾	4
De Treasury	91	6
Austrian Gold	95	6
Do. Silver	74	6
Belgian 4 pct	103½	6¼
Do. part paid	13⅜	9/16 dis
B. Ayres 6 pc	103	2
Do. Cedulas 1	93½	6 xd
Chilian 6 pct 1333	103	2
Costa Rica A	93	2
Do. B	88	80
Egyptian Unified	101¼	⅜
Do. Unified	91½	⅜
Do. Pre ences	103⅝	4½
Do. Da ra Sinkh	85¾	4¾
French 3 pc rtes	95⅛	7
Do. 4½ p.c. Rnte	104	3¼
Greek 5 pc. 1881	83½	90½
Hung Gold Rentes	87¼	⅜
Italian	94¼	⅛
Mexican 6 per c 1833	95	⅜
Peruvian 5 p.c.	17⅜	⅛
Do. 6 p.c.	24¾	⅛
Portuguese	15⅝	3/16
Russian 6 p. c. 1871	95¾	⅛
Spanish 4 p. c.	72½	⅜
Turkish 1858	21	4
Series A	41	⅛
Series B	25½	⅜
Series D	17⅝	18
6 p.c. 1858	93¾	0
5 p.c. Priority	85	7
Uruguay Unified	71	⅛
Virginia Funded 6	41½	3/16
Do. 2-3 p.c.	20¾	⅜

BRITISH RAILWAYS.		
Caledonian	125⅛	6¼
Great Eastern	83½	⅜
Great Northern	123	⅛
Ditto A	135	7
Great Western	154⅜	⅞
Holland Barnsley	58¼	⅜
Lancashire & Yorks	158	⅜
Brighton Ordinary	105	7
Brighton A	153⅜	⅝
Chatham (Ordinary	25⅝	⅞
Cha. Preference	103	⅝ xd
North Western	182⅝	⅜
South Western	128⅝	4/8 xd
Manchester Sheff.	68	9½
Do. A	97⅛	⅜
Met. Consolidated	77	⅜
Do. District	29⅝	⅜
Midland	136⅝	⅞
North British Pref	77¼	⅜
Do. Def.	63⅝	⅜
North Eastern	160½	¾ xd
North Stafford	81	15 xd
South Eastern	123	30
Do. Deferred	101¾	⅜
Taff Vale 1111	73	01 xd
FOREIGN RAILWAYS.		
Canada Pacific	79⅞	7/8
Chili Central	69⅜	⅜
Chic. Mil. and St. Pl	69⅞	70⅜
Denver & R. Grande	16⅝	⅜
Do. Pref	42⅝	9/16 xd
Grand Trunk	19	20 xd
Lake Shore	107⅞	8⅛
Ohio & Mississipi	21⅛	2⅜
Louisville Nashv.	83¾	3/16 xrts
Mex. Cen. 7 per c.	81	1⅛
Mex. Kan. & Texas	9⅝	10⅜
N.Y. Cen. Shares	108⅝	9
New York Ontario	18⅝	⅜
Erie Shares	25⅞	7⅜
Do. Sec. Mort	105¾	⅜
Norfolk & West. Pref	62¾	⅜
N.P. Ref. Cert.	83	⅜
North Pacific Pref	75	⅜
Pennsylvania Sh.	65⅝	6
Philadelphia Sh.	20⅝	⅞
Rio Prefer.	45	⅜
Union Pacific	68⅝	⅞
Wabash Pre erence	32	⅛
Do. Gen. Mort.	61⅛	⅜
Grand Trunk Def	12½	⅛
Do. First Pref.	72½	⅜
Do. Second Pref	49	⅛
Do. Third Pref.	27¾	⅜
Do. Guaranteed	93⅛	⅜
Mexican Ordinary	37	⅜
Do. First Pref	116½	17
Ohio. & Sal. First.	72¾	3/4
Lombardo-Venet	8⅜	1/16
Nitrate Railway	17⅜	⅛
BANKS.		
Alliance Bank	15	13
City Bank	22	3
Consolidated Bank	9	⅛
Imperial Ottoman	11 3/16	7/16
London and County	93	1 xd
Union of London	43½	1½
London and S. A.	21	20
London Joint Stock	38⅜	9⅛
Nat. Prov. of Eng.	20	7
Stand. Bank S. A. rica	66⅛	7⅛

MINES.		
Indian Consolidated	1	3/16
Mysore Reefs	5⅛	⅛
Georgias	2⅜	⅛
Cape Copper	5⅛	⅜
Namaqua	2⅜	⅛
Rio and Durp	6¼	⅛
Rio Tinto	13 3/16	10/16
Montana Glasgow	1 3/16	5/16
De Beers Consolidated	17⅛	⅛
Do. Deferred	22⅜	⅜
TELEGRAPHS AND PRESS.		
Anglo-American	50	1 xd
Do. Pref	85⅜	6/16 xd
Brazilian Submarine	105¾	⅜
Direct Unit. States	10	⅛
Eastern	15⅜	1/16
Direct Spanish	15⅜	1/4
National Telegraph	7	⅜
Globe Telegraph and Trust	87⅜	⅜
TRAMWAYS, ETC.		
London Gen. Omn.	130	23
London Street	11¾	11⅝ xd
Lambeth	133	4 xd
New River, New	310	5 xd
Schwick & Vauxhall	113	13
W. Middlesex	211	9
GAS & ELECTRIC LIGHT.		
Gaslight & Coke A	215	5 xd
Imp. Continental	215	18
South Metro. A.	237	92
Do. B.	226	8
Do. C.	233	43
London Electric	7⅞	⅜
Metropolitan	214	⅞
MISCELLANEOUS.		
Allsopp	7⅜	⅜
Guinness and Co.	337⅛	42½
Hotchkiss	7	⅛
Hydraulic Power	23¾	⅜
Maple and Co.	7⅛	⅜
Liverpool Nitrate	15	15
Primitiva Nitrate	15¼	15⅜
Salt Union Shares	11¾	⅜
P. and O. Stm. Def.	202	7
Royal Mail Steam	75	6
Nat. Discount Co.	113¾	13¾
Hudson Bay	23¾	⅜
Suez Canal	71⅛	⅜
Exand W. Ind. Dock	17	19
London and S. A.	33	7 xd

The following are quotations of securities receiving attention at present, and not given in our list above:—

Bell's Asbestos	13½	⅝
San Jorge	6	⅜
Tarapaca Water	10⅜	⅜
City and Suburban	8⅜	⅜
Imperial Gold	8⅛	⅜
Jubilee	6⅛	⅜
Salisbury	8⅜	⅜
Ruby	⅝	1/4 pm
Lisbon Berlyn	7/8	7/8
Ottawa Land		11⅛
Sutherland Real		4
Transvaal Land		⅞
G. F. & S. Africa		5⅛
Exploring Co.		15
Rosamond Exploration		2⅛
Southern Land		1⅛
Eastman's Ordinary	15	⅜
Rimmer's Copper		6⅛

"Pall Mall Gazette" Office,

TUESDAY MORNING.

I hear that Mr. George Wyndham was much disappointed last night because he was not allowed to follow, and to demolish, Mr. William O'Brien. The *Idus Achates* of the Chief Secretary had been carefully wound up and gave out the required argument in a decorous speech. The "handsomest man in the House" is certainly not wanting in self-appreciation. He created a good deal of amused surprise last night by his magnanimous offer to relieve the Chief Secretary for Ireland of all responsibility for his official letters. What a priceless secretary Mr. Wyndham must be!

MR. WYNDHAM.

I am glad to hear that the volume which Mr. A. E. Hake is about to bring out on General Gordon is not founded on the MS. "Journal in China" which General Gordon desired to be destroyed. The report that Mr. Hake was about to publish the journal—to secure the suppression of which General Gordon had paid £100—had excited considerable indignation among some of Gordon's friends, all of whom will be glad to know there is no foundation for the report that so flagrant a violation of his wishes was contemplated by Mr. Hake.

⁂

Mr. Harold Wright is the clever "Stuff Gownsman" whose sketches of the Parnell Commission have been issued in a guinea portfolio by the Graphotone Company. The sketches are very good, but somewhat unequal. Mr. Wright has not got Mr. Parnell's look. He makes him like a beatified Scotch shepherd preparing to sing "There were ninety and nine that safely lay, &c." Davitt also is a comparative failure. But Mr. Cunyngham is very good, Mr. Ronan is excellent, so is Matt Harris, Sir Henry James is faithful, so is Sir Richard—back view, Pigott with "hesitency" in his hand is good, so is Mr. Lewis, who is putting on the cloak of another Parnell whose eyes are like gimlets. T. P. is so egregiously flattered that his own wife would not know him, while E. Harrington is libelled as atrociously.

⁂

The Attorney-General's speech on Saturday was in every way worthy (writes an Oxford corrsspondent) of the club under whose auspices it was delivered. "The Strafford" consists of the least popular Conservatives in the 'Varsity, and has earned during the few years of its existence an unenviable notoriety by its intrigues in the elections to the Union offices. It had agents at every college, who, stimulated by the promise or prospect of seats on the committee, used every means to induce the unwary freshman to record his vote for the Strafford candidate. So objectionable did this club become with its powerful organization, that the Union was obliged to make a rule abolishing canvassing; but this the ingenuity of the Strafford wire-pullers managed to evade till they were strong enough to revoke the prohibition. The introduction of party feeling into elections to non-political offices made the Union lose caste and members. The Attorney-General will, no doubt, be glad to hear that no president of that society was ever more outspoken in his denunciation of the shady tactics of the Strafford Club than Lord Robert Cecil, the Premier's son.

⁂

Mr. Herbert Gladstone is now in considerable demand for political demonstrations. He is to speak at a great combined demonstration of the Liberals of five parliamentary divisions at Staines, on Wednesday, the 26th inst. His appearances in the South have not been many, but they have always been successful.

⁂

Mr. Kentaro Kaneko, the Japanese Parliamentary Commissioner, is delighted with the kind courtesy being shown him by the Government. The Speaker has provided Mr. Kaneko with a ticket that will admit him to the "distinguished strangers" gallery at any time during his stay in England; and the Parliamentary Papers and Orders of the day are sent to his residence every morning. Mr. Kaneko's assistants take regular notes of the parliamentary proceedings. Mr. Palgrave has been untiring in his efforts to enlighten the commission. Mr. Kaneko, by the way, has an article in this month's *Atlantic Monthly* on the Japanese constitution, and he is an old contributor to *Harper's* and Frank Leslie's weekly. He will shortly make his début in the English reviews.

⁂

Mrs. Hannah Whetall Smith describes in the *Union Signal* a visit which she paid to Dr. George Macdonald in Bordighera, where he flourishes in a drawing-room 75 ft. long by 40 ft. wide. Dr. Macdonald is, it seems, experimenting in "voice figures" on Mrs. Watts-Hughes's method, and has succeeded in producing a daisy perfect in form and also several other wonderful figures. Making voice pictures promises to become as fashionable an amusement as hypnotism.

⁂

A correspondent writes:—Surely you are wrong in making Mr. Edmund Yates the father of Society journalism, as you have done more than once lately? Mr. T. C. Bowles founded the paper called *Vanity Fair* in 1868; and it is generally supposed that it was the great immediate success of this (then) shilling paper which brought the sixpenny *World* into the field, to be followed by the sixpenny *Truth*.

⁂

When the *Daily Graphic* was started the number of applicants for the post of dramatic critic was reported to have run into three figures. I have pleasure in bringing to the notice of the rejected gentlemen the following advertisement snipped from one of the morning papers:—

> WANTED, for a Theatrical Paper, an EDITOR of consummate ability, elegant and polished style, cultured taste, and critical acumen; vigorous, but not scurrilous; graceful and lively, but without vulgarity. The highest references and testimonials required.—Address, &c.

⁂

Mdme. Caron, who played the title rôle in the opera of "Salammbô," just produced at Brussels, is tall and slight, with a thoroughly dramatic face, a mobile mouth capable of assuming an expression of tragic intensity, and clear, light-reflecting, inspired eyes, M. Reyer, the composer of "Salammbô," is between sixty and seventy. He has the appearance of an officer, and for a child of the South (for he was born at Marseilles in 1823) is curiously fair. He is of the new school, his music being more famous for its complicated and beautiful harmonies of the kind that the frequenters of Bayreuth find so powerfully suggestive, than for melodies that can be caught and reproduced) after a first hearing. He brings a train of musical and other notabilities in his wake—some to take part in "Salammbô," others to witness it.

⁂

Even Flaubert's imagination, which seems to have run riot in "Salammbô," might have been satisfied by the gorgeous *mise-en-scène* at the Monnaie. Flaubert, in choosing Carthage during the second Punic war as the background for his wonderful tale, took advantage of the fact that we have no very authentic documents concerning it to construct the most marvellous superstructure the mind can conceive. His realistic descriptions of sumptuous banquets, pagan sacrifices, processions of reckless magnificence, splendour, frenzy, and horror, have long been celebrated as a triumph of word-painting. In the opera there are five acts, and as many tableaux. In the first we have the banquet of the mercenaries and a procession of the priests. The sanctuary of Moloch and the terrace of Salammbô form two more magnificent tableaux.

Bord's Pianos.—25 per cent. discount for cash, or 12s. per month (Second-hand, 10s. 6d. per month on the three years' system. Illustrated lists free.—CHAS. STILES and CO., 48, SOUTHAMPTON ROW, HOLBORN, W.C. Piano exchanges.

UNIVERSITY NOTES AND NEWS.

I.—OXFORD. (FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

"Strafford" is being a great success. The first and second nights there was some room to spare in the house, but on Saturday the theatre was crowded. Many people have come up from town for the matinées; among others Mr. and Mrs. Barrett Browning, who were, we hear, greatly pleased with the rendering of the play. Several old members of the club have come up, among others Coningsby Disraeli and John Scott Montagu.

The Torpids have been peculiarly fortunate this year in having remarkably fine weather; the result has been that there have been plenty of people on the barges to see the races. Brasenose is very plucky kept its position as head of the river. This is due to strength and pluck rather than very finished style. Balliol bumped New College the first night, but have only succeeded in bustling up B.N.C. Keble and Christ Church II. have each lost a place, Corpus having made three bumps; Merton and New College II. have also succeeded in making three bumps, Lincoln are inordinately proud of having made two bumps, and Christ Church I. are rather pleased at having made one. Oriel has lost three places and University four; John's and Hertford have lost one, and Exeter two places. Trinity and Magdalen have rowed over all four nights. In the two remaining nights very few bumps will be made.

There was tremendous excitement on Tuesday last as to the result of the final tie for the college association teams. Magdalen and Christ Church were the two last colleges left in, and everybody thought Magdalen would win in a canter; indeed, undergrads frequently bet 10 to 1 on this college. The result, however, was an easy win to Christ Church—five goals to one. It is true that Magdalen lost a very valuable man in Shaw, who had his collar-bone broken early in the game; at the same time there can be no doubt that Phillimore and Rhodes and the rest of the Christ Church team were too strong for them.

The Mitchell St. George's match on Monday was rather an unsatisfactory performance; the 'Varsity team, which was a strong one—Farrant, Jackson, Izard, and Wilkinson all playing—losing the game in the last five minutes. Superior goal-keeping on the part of our adversaries gained them the victory.

II.—CAMBRIDGE. (FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

The syndicate on the examinations for the Pass degrees have just published their report, in which a slight raising of standard is recommended. The syndicate suggest also that the generals and specials should each be divided into two parts, and that new specials should be created in classics and mathematics. The latter are intended especially to meet the wants of students wishing to become schoolmasters.

The members' prize for Latin essays has not been awarded, for the eleventh time during the last twenty years. The two words "not adjudged" occur rather frequently in that part of the calendar which is devoted to the records of university scholarships. We have at present an *in statu pupillari* deputy-professor, which is strange; but it has been pointed out that Walmsley was professor of music during two years of his university course—nearly a freshman and a professor—after which he became sixteenth Junior Op., in 1838. Our present professor of music, by the way, was at the bottom of the Classical Tripos in 1874.

King's has just started a general lunch in the hall at which any member of the college may turn up. On these occasions there is no distinction of persons, and the "commons" are frugal, but the innovation is a sensible one. There is an energetic body of younger fellows at King's, fond of reform and of "levelling" tendencies.

Like the rest of the world, Cambridge is paying an increasing attention to golf. We have a very good common, ycleped Coldham, where an exciting match was witnessed last Friday with a Yarmouth team.

The hardworking crew of the University eight have been improving collectively, and though they will never probably be a pretty crew, there is no reason why they may not get on a considerable pace. The crew is now practically fixed, being now made up as follows:—1, Storrs, Emmanuel; 2, Sladen, Trinity Hall; 3, Fison, Corpus; 4, Rowlatt, Trinity Hall; 5, Duffield, Trinity Hall; 6, Muttlebury, Third Trinity; 7, Francklyn, Third Trinity; stroke, Elin, Third Trinity. President Muttlebury, I see, is to appear in *Vanity Fair* just before the boat race. He has been sitting to Mr. Leslie Ward.

The college Rugby football season is at an end, leaving Trinity at the head of the list, with an exceedingly good record, which does not, however, eclipse that of Clare. Jesus came in for a good share of success, though the presence of six Blues ought to have produced a better result. The Trinity team only contained one Blue, but its composition was very seldom altered, which gave it solidity. The University Rugby team have been playing well, and the Association team have retrieved their last week's loss with the Casuals by beating a fairly strong Corinthian team. Athletic sports have been going on busily at Fenner's, and the college handicaps went off well with the exception of the hurdles. The Lent races begin to-morrow, and are not expected to be up to the average of past years. Influenza has much to answer for, but it can hardly be accused of having caused the general tendency to bucket, which is obvious in the eights.

The High Church visited us last week in the person of the at present famous Mr. Bell Cox, of Liverpool, who addressed a meeting of the English Church Union, which was also attended by Canon Knox Little and the Rev. Mr. Hicks.

THE GERMAN EMPEROR AND HIS TUTOR.

Just now the German papers are printing a good deal about Dr. Hinzpeter, who acted as tutor to the Emperor when his father was Crown Prince, and has now been nominated a member of the Council charged with dealing with the labour question. The re-establishment of his connection with the Kaiser is regarded as important. Considerations about a continuance of Dr. Hinzpeter's influence over his previous ward, to the discarding even of counsel which has hitherto been paramount in high places. There are some who view in the Emperor's attachment to the person and respect for the judgment of Dr. Hinzpeter a relationship similar to that which existed between the Emperor Frederick and Professor Geffcken, the details of which will be still remembered; but, however this may be, it is certain that the Emperor, since his accession, has often paid his former tutor the compliment of consulting him and requesting his assistance in various critical affairs, as witness, for example, the Westphalian strikes. At a banquet in Münster last autumn the Emperor referred to Dr. Hinzpeter as the incorporation of all the best virtues of the typical Westphalian—solid, simple, clear-headed, honour-bright, long-lived, sagacious, trustworthy, and true as steel. He married a Mademoiselle d'Harcourt, who had been French governess in the family of the Crown Prince.—*Times*.

THE CHESS CHAMPIONSHIP.—GREAT EXCITEMENT.

A telegram from Havannah says:—Gunsberg won the game played to-day in the match between himself and Tschigorin, and the score is therefore nine each. As the scoring of the match is depending on the winning of ten games, another victory for either player must decide the contest. Never before has such excitement attended a chess contest, and whatever the result may be it is evident the two players are of about equal strength.

MR. BALFOUR'S LAND PURCHASE BILL.

The London correspondent of the *Irish Times* explains Mr. Balfour's omission to introduce his bill by saying on good authority that, as a consequence of the conclusion at yesterday's Cabinet Council, he decided to hold his hand until the debate on the Address is concluded.

THE COUNTESS RUSSELL CONVALESCENT.

The Countess of Russell, the young bride who since her marriage on the 6th of the present month has been laid up in Eaton-square with a slight attack of pleurisy, went out for a drive yesterday for the first time, and will to-day leave London for Torquay on her honeymoon.

TREATMENT OF SIBERIAN PRISONERS.

Mr. George Kennan has published the text of the order under which the Siberian outrages were perpetrated. Its purport (the New York correspondent of the *Standard* declares) is to abolish entirely every distinction between political offenders and common criminals. Both classes are to be similarly chained, lodged, worked, and punished. The order is dated March 8, 1888, and is signed "Galkin Vrasskoy, Director of the Chief Prison Administration." Mr. Kennan contrasts this Order, and the authorization of corporal punishment, with the offering of a prize by Russia for the best essay upon John Howard's services to humanity, to be awarded at the approaching International Prison Congress at St Petersburg. Mr. Kennan remarks that the outrages at this juncture will imperil the pending Russo-American extradition treaty.

Princess Christian is recovering slowly from her attack of influenza.

The President of the Board of Trade will, it is said, take charge of the Tithes Bill.

The Athenæum Club yesterday afternoon had their first ballot of the season for election of new members.

Mr. George Curzon has completed his long tour through Persia, and is expected home next week by the Indian mail.

"FOR THE BLOOD IS THE LIFE."—Clarke's world-famed Blood Mixture is warranted to cleanse the blood from all impurities, from whatever cause arising. For Scrofula, Scurvy, Eczema, skin and blood diseases, and sores of all kinds, its effects are marvellous. Thousands of testimonials. In bottles, 2s. 6d. and 11s. each, of all Chemists. Proprietors, Bergin and Millford Counties Drug Company, Lincoln. Ask for Clarke's Blood Mixture, and decline to be persuaded to take imitations.

BOARD SCHOOL CHILDREN AT PLAY.

WHAT THE "HAPPY EVENINGS ASSOCIATION" IS DOING.

One of the large white-tiled schoolrooms of the Stanhope-street Board School, near the Euston-road, presented a charmingly animated scene last night between the hours of seven and ten when, by the invitation of the "Happy Evenings Association," two hundred little maidens in all sorts and conditions and shades of pinafores assembled to spend a happy evening. The Hon. Mrs. Jeune, who is ever ready to help in a movement which concerns the welfare of children, opened the evening, and mindful of the purpose of the gathering, rested content with inviting the little guests to try how much noise they could make, how good they could be, and how much they could enjoy themselves. In all three points the kindly injunction was carried out—especially in the first, when a vote of thanks to Mrs. Jeune was proposed by Sir James Carmichael, treasurer of the association, and seconded, in the absence of Mr. Diggle, chairman of the School Board, by Mr. Raphael, member of the School Board for the division in which Stanhope-street is included. These cheers might have been louder still had the little folk known that Mrs. Jeune had provided twenty pounds of sweets to be distributed at the close of the evening. As it was, the entrance of the footman with bulky and mysterious parcels roused almost unobserved for long before that little feet were tripping it merrily in a gay reel led by Miss Ada Heather-Bigg, one of the originators of the scheme, by her bright young sister who acts as secretary to the association, and by several ladies and gentlemen. Shuttlecocks flew gaily hither and thither, balls were tossed, and brand-new skipping-ropes were soon engaged in active service. Then a sprightly polka, danced with the grace one sees in the little impromptu "hops" of our London pavements where the barrel-organ serves as orchestra, led the way into a series of old-fashioned games. "Round the Mulberry Bush," "Puss in the Corner," "Gaps," "My Wife has lost her Wedding ring," "Oranges and Lemons," "Dumb Crambo," "Blind Man's Buff," "How, When, and Where," and all the rest of these good games which never grow old. After a gay gallop, even the most energetic were ready to settle to quieter games, such as "proverbs," while fairy tales were told to large and appreciative audiences. "Nine pins" and country dances concluded a genuinely happy evening, which had brought a colour to cheeks too pale and a sparkle into eyes too dull for childhood—results that must have amply rewarded the kind helpers who had devoted themselves to brightening the often sordid lives of these children of the city. Those who had heard Miss Ada Heather-Bigg's clever lecture at a meeting of school board managers last Friday must have remembered her remarks on the "hygienic value of happiness" and felt that the evening had been profitable as well as pleasant to the little folk.

The "Happy Evenings" at the Waterloo-road School are now in full swing, the second taking place to-night, and before long others will be held at Shoreditch and other parts of London—wherever there are willing helpers for the work and a few generous people to raise the £12 needed for a year's happy evenings. The School Board provides the use of the room and the light, leaving, as the sole expenses, the wages of a caretaker, the hire of a piano for Stanhope-street the charge has been defrayed by Mr. Raphael and the purchase of a few simple games.

IN A HUGE CRADLE AT THE NICE CARNIVAL.

The most notable thing in the procession at the Nice carnival on Monday was a large cradle decorated with blue and pink silk, and smothered in flowers. In the "cradle" were several well-known ladies and gentlemen, dressed in imitation of babies, who pelted the crowd with a vigour by no means infantile. Other sights worth remembering were a dog-cart, the wheels and body of which seemed to be made entirely of lovely violets; a phaeton with outriders and footmen dressed in satin, the vehicle being a mass of roses and white lilac; and a palanquin, with a gorgeous green and yellow satin canopy, driven by a sedate Chinaman, who came in for a liberal share of badinage.

THE GAIETY RESTAURANT, Strand.
THE MUSICAL DINNER.
SPIERS & POND have made arrangements with the
CORINTHIAN CLUB BAND
to give a choice selection from their répertoire every evening in the Restaurant.
The MUSICAL ENTERTAINMENT will commence at 6 o'clock concurrently with the Table d'Hôte, which is served at separate tables at 6s. and 8s. 6d. per head.
The high reputation of this band in fashionable circles renders this arrangement worthy the attention of musical amateurs.
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COCOATINA
THE BEST AND PUREST
COCOA
AND CHEAPEST
ZWIEBACK

SHORT SIGHT.
This form of defective vision is no doubt alarmingly increasing, but many kinds of defective vision are constantly mistaken for short sight merely because clearer vision is obtained by bringing an object closer to the eyes. If such cases are treated with ordinary short-sighted spectacles the mischief is greatly aggravated, and serious and permanent injury is done to the sight. Mr. JOHN BROWNING, Ophthalmic Optician (Author of "Our Eyes," now in its Eighth Edition), may be consulted free of charge in all cases of defective vision, at 63, STRAND, W.C.

BOOTS AND SHOES.
Messrs. LATTIMER, CRICK, and CO. beg to state that they have OPENED PREMISES at 87, BISHOPSGATE-STREET WITHIN, for the SALE of the new
GOODYEAR WELTED BOOTS and SHOES.

Notice.
Admirers of the late ROBERT BROWNING *will find a charming portrait of the poet, which has been reproduced from a new photograph by permission of Mrs. F. W. H. Myers, in last week's number (February 13) of the* PALL MALL BUDGET.
The same issue also contains a Sketch from Life of
MR. J. L. TOOLE IN HIS DRESSING ROOM,
HOW IDIOTS ARE EDUCATED.
TIPS TO RAILWAY PORTERS.
SKETCHES ON THE ZAMBESI RIVER,
AND MANY OTHER MATTERS OF INTEREST.
PRICE FOURPENCE. Post free FOURPENCE-HALFPENNY.
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Specimens of the work of the various Firms may be seen at 21, Ludgate Hill, E.C.

PROSPECTUSES WILL BE READY ON SATURDAY NEXT.

ST. JOHN WINNE, Secretary (pro tem.), 12 and 14, Catherine-street, Strand, London, W.C.

IMPERIAL RUSSIAN GOVERNMENT FOUR PER CENT. GOLD LOAN. 5 S. of £14,333,000. 286,000,000 Francs, 1,000,000 Florins. 230,000,000 Reichsmark. 20,000,000 Roubles Nominal Capital. Principal and Interest free from all Russian Taxes. Payable at par in 40 years by Semi-Annual Drawings. Created by virtue of the Ukase of His Majesty the Emperor of Russia, dated 19 31 January, 1890.

Messrs. BARING BROTHERS and Co. and Messrs. C. J. HAMBRO and SON are authorised by the Imperial Russian Government to receive Subscriptions for the above Loan at the price of £97 2s. 6d. per Bond of £20 17s. 6d., payable:—

£3 0 0 on application.
20 0 0 ,, Allotment.
20 0 0 ,, 3rd April.
20 0 0 ,, 2nd May.
2 12 6 ,, 2nd June.

£112 6

Payments may be made in full on allotment or any Tuesday or Friday subsequent to the issue of Scrip Certificates without discount at the rate of 3 per cent. per annum.

Subscription lists will be opened simultaneously in Paris, Amsterdam, Berlin, and St. Petersburg.

The object of this Loan is to pay off the outstanding Bonds of the Au.lo Dutch Loans of 1864 and 1866, amounting to about £6,627,000; and to provide for the final Conversion of the Five per Cent. Loan of 1855, amounting to 38,402,000 Silver Roubles (metal), at the conversion rate of exchange, to wit, 96 7/8.

The Loan will be divided into—

BONDS OF

£ s. d.	Frs.	Fl.	Rm's.	Roubles.
10 10 0	250	125	210	100
21 17 6	2,500	1,125	2,100	625
218 7 6	12,500	2,625	10,500	3,125

Interest will be payable quarterly on and 1st March, 1st June, 1st September, and 1st December, in London, Paris, Amsterdam, Berlin, St. Petersburg, and New York. The first Coupon will be payable on 1st June, 1890.

The Bonds will be redeemed at par in eighty years by half yearly drawings, and will be payable at the above places. The first drawing-over will take place on the 1st December, 1890, and this first drawing will include a sufficient number of Bonds to cause the Loan to have the same duration as the previous Four per Cent. Conversion Loan, issued in the year 1862.

The Russian Government reserves to itself the right to increase the half-yearly drawings, so as to pay the whole Loan on or after January 1, 1930.

Holders of Bonds of the Anglo-Dutch Loans of 1864 and 1866, which, by Imperial Ukase of the 19 31 January, 1890, have been called in for payment on 1st April, 1890, and the Holders of Bonds of the Five per Cent. Silver Loan of 1855, have a pre-emptive right to subscribe for Bonds of the Loan at the issue price, less discount, viz., £91 15s., and allotments will be made to them in full, provided they intimate their wish to do so at the Bankers' House before the 25th inst.

Bonds of the Five per Cent. 1855 Loans, with Coupon due 1st April, 1890, attached, will be received in payment upon the following scale, which includes interest on the Bonds to the 1st March, 1890, from which date the new Bonds bear interest), namely:—

£98 15s. 6d. per Bond of £100.
£9 16s. 6d. ,, ,, 1,000 (or £981 5s.).

and Bonds of the Loan of 1855, with Coupon of 15th April, 1890, attached, will be received in payment by each payment.

Any Bonds missing from the old Bonds tendered for conversion, a deduction will be made at the rate of £6 per Bond of £100, or £60 per Bond for Coupons relating to Bonds of £1000, or Fl. 1,600 per Bond of £1,000, and of £1 12s. 6d. per Coupon relating to Bonds of 500 Silver Roubles of the Loan of 1855.

Whole sheets of Bonds of the Five per Cent. Silver Loan of 1889 are given the option of conversion upon the same terms, but Imperial Russian Government expressly reserves all its rights in connection with the text of the said Bonds, as regards any Bonds not presented for conversion.

The SUBSCRIPTION LIST will be CLOSED on or before the 26th of February, 1890, at 4 P.M.

The allotment will be made as early as possible after the list is closed, and where no allotment is made the deposit will be returned in full.

In default of payment of the successive instalments when due, all previous payments will be liable to forfeiture.

Scrip Certificates will be issued in exchange for Letters of Allotment, and the Bonds will be delivered against Scrip and Scrip, as soon as possible after the close of the Loan.

Applications should be made on the prescribed form, and addressed to the offices of Messrs. Baring Brothers and Co., 8, Bishopsgate-street-Within, E.C., or Messrs. C. J. Hambro and Son, 70, Old Broad-street, E.C.

London, 16th February, 1890.

HAND-IN-HAND INSURANCE SOCIETY, MUTUAL (NON-PROFIT and LIFE), LIFE—Profits divided Annually.
FIRE—Rates exceptionally or Septennially.
Sickness, Burglary, Accident, Residence. No Personal Liability.
ANNUAL INCOME, £318,609.
ACCUMULATED FUNDS, £2,302,295.
No. 26, New Bridge-street, E.C.

PHŒNIX FIRE OFFICE,
19, LOMBARD STREET, E.C.,
AND
57, CHARING CROSS, S.W.

LONDON LIFE ASSOCIATION, Established 1806.
ASSURANCE FUND FOUR MILLIONS.
83, KING WILLIAM STREET, E.C.

WESTMINSTER FIRE OFFICE,
27, KING STREET, ST. JAMES'S, LONDON.
Founded A.D. 1717. Losses promptly paid.
Assurances arranged by Telephone No. 5,393.
CHARLES ROSE BROWNE, Secretary.

NEW DEPARTURE
IN
PROTECTION FROM FIRE.

THE "MONARCH" FIRE BRIGADE PILIAR,
The cheapest and most efficient means of protection from fire yet known.
SEND FOR PARTICULARS TO
61 SINCLAIR, TWEEDIE, and CO., 70, NEWGATE-STREET, LONDON, E.C.

EAST TENNESSEE, VIRGINIA, and GEORGIA RAILWAY COMPANY.
FURTHER ISSUE of 1,500,0 0 dolls., being part of 6,000,000 dolls. Equipment and Improvement Mortgage Five per Cent. Gold Bonds.
The present Issue makes a total of 4,500,000 dolls. Issued, leaving 1,500,000 dolls. in the Treasury of the Company for future requirements.
These Bonds are until 1938, having half-yearly Coupons attached, payable in New York, on 1st March and 1st September, with Principal and Interest are payable in gold coin, without any deduction whatever for any United States or State Tax.
The Bonds are for 1,000 dols. each, and can be registered in New York if desired.

Messrs. HESELTINE, POWELL, and Co., 1, Drapers'-gardens, E.C., are authorised to receive SUBSCRIPTIONS for the above BONDS at the price of 92½ per cent., or £185 per Bond of 1,000 dols.

Payable as follows:—

On Application ... 5 per Cent. £10 per Bond on Application
On Allotment ... 20 ,, ,, £40 per Bond on Allotment
On 1st April ... 20 ,, ,, £40 per Bond on 1st March
On 2nd May ... 47½ ,, ,, £95 per Bond on 2nd March
Total ... 92½ £185

The Bonds carry interest from 1st March, 1890, the first coupon being payable on 1st September, and are issued under the authority of the shareholders, which was given at a meeting held on the 15th October, 1888. The total amount so authorised, was 6,000,000 dolls., being under 9 000 dolls. a mile.

The proceeds are applied to the purchase of additional equipment, and to the general improvement and betterment of the property.

The Company, in addition to meeting all its fixed charges (including taxes, insurance, &c.), more than once earned the interest now paid on its 11,000,000 dolls. of First Preferred Stock, being Four per Cent. for year ending June, 1887, and Five per Cent. for 1888, and Five per cent. for 1889.

The Company earned for 1888..... 3,615,386
And for 1889 3,939,160
Showing an increase in the year of $ 776,457

The remaining 1,500,000 dolls. of Bonds can only be issued from time to time, to meet such requirements as abovementioned, upon the certificates of the Company's officers, and after approval by the Board of Directors, in conformity with the carefully guarded terms of the Mortgage, which has been examined and approved by Messrs. Seward, da Costa, and Guthrie, of New York.

SUBSCRIPTIONS will be received on WEDNESDAY, the 19th of February, and the LIST will be Closed on or before THURSDAY, the 20th of February, at 4 P.M., and the allotment will be made as soon afterwards as is possible.

On payment of the first instalment the Definitive Bonds will be delivered, and will be identical with those interim-receipts issued on the Subscription Exchange.

Copies of the bond and of the resolution of the shareholders authorizing the issue, and of the deed of trust conveying the property with all equipment in use and hereafter to be acquired, to the Central Trust Company of New York, as trustee to the bondholders, can be seen at the offices of Heseltine, Powell, and Co., 1, Drapers-gardens, E.C.

17th February, 1890.

THE CITY OF MELBOURNE BANK (LIMITED).

Capital, 400,000 Shares of £5 each	£2,000,000
Issued 200,000 Shares:—	
Paid up	£500,000
Uncalled	500,000 1,000,000
Reserve Fund	370,000

Head Office, Melbourne, Bishopsgate-street.
Bankers—Bank of England, Royal Bank of Scotland, Dublin; Messrs. Guinness, Mahon, and Co.

All banking business in connection with the Australian colonies transacted.
Deposits received on terms to be ascertained on application.

EDMUND ROUSE, Manager.

Employers' Liability Accidents; All Accidents during Employment; General, Railway, and Marine Accidents; Boiler Explosions.
THE EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY ASSURANCE CORPORATION LIMITED.
LONDON.
CAPITAL, £1,000,000.
Fully subscribed, £500,000; paid-up, £100,000.
DIRECTORS.
Chairman, Lord CLAUD HAMILTON.
C. F. H. Bellingham, Esq., Henry W. Maynard, Esq.
Middlesbrough.
Anthony Rowe, Esq., Liverpool.
Robert Milburn, Esq.
Arnold Salomons, Esq.
Henry Chapman, Esq., Charles Thomas, Esq.
Sir William E. Forwood, Liverpool.
Philip H. Waterlow, Esq.
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R. Robert O. White, Esq.

Names of workmen not required; premium charged on total wages at 2s. per cent. and upwards. Reduced rates for general accidents, with bonus at end of year.
Collective fidelity guarantee policies for any number of persons.
Applications for agencies invited.
S. STANLEY BROWN, General Manager.

DEATH AND DISABLEMENT BY ACCIDENT.
THE RAILWAY PASSENGERS' ASSURANCE COMPANY assures £4,000 at death and full benefits at £3 per annum.
Hon. EVELYN ASHLEY, Chairman.
ANNUAL INCOME £650,000
80,000 Annual Policyholders.
INVESTED CAPITAL AND RESERVE FUND.
COMPENSATION PAID, £2,750,000.
West-End Office—3, Grand Hotel-buildings, W.C.
Head Office: 64, Cornhill, London, E.C.
WILLIAM J. VIAN, Secretary.

Established 1853.
THE LIBERATOR BUILDING SOCIETY.
Budge-row, Cannon-street, London E.C.
Reserve Fund £80,000
FIVE PER CENT. PAID ON SHARES (£50 each), and on deposits of £500 and upwards as for fixed terms.
DEPOSITS of £5 and upwards at ONE MONTH'S NOTICE, FOUR PER CENT.
Prospectuses apply to the Secretary,
F. H. ROGERS.

MONARCH INVESTMENT BUILDING SOCIETY. Established 1867.
Total advances made exceed £1,326,653.
DEPOSITS received at 3½ and 4 per cent., subject to repayment at short notice.
DIVIDENDS paid half-yearly through the post.
For forms of application apply to
W. H. MAYERS, Secretary.
Offices: 33, Finsbury-circus, E.C.

AUSTRALIA, NEW ZEALAND TASMANIA.—ORIENT LINE.
FORTNIGHTLY MAIL SERVICE.
The following Steamships leave LONDON as under, PLYMOUTH one day later, NAPLES nine days later, for ALBANY, ADELAIDE, MELBOURNE, and SYDNEY, via Her Majesty's Mails, calling at COLOMBO, and taking passengers for all Ports in AUSTRALASIA:—

	Tons.	Pass.
*CUZCO	6,300	Feb. 23
ORIENT	6,365	4,000 .. March 10
LUSITANIA ..	5,877	4,000 .. March 24
GROVA	5,057	7,000 .. April 7
ORIZABA	6,077	7,000 .. April 21
AUGUSTA	6,949	4,000 .. May 9

* CALLING AT ALGIERS.
Landing Berth, Tilbury Docks.
Managers, Messrs. GRAY, Dawes, and Co.
Managers, F. Green and Co., 13, Fenchurch-avenue, and Mincing-lane, Anderson, and Co., Finch-avenue, London, E.C. For freight or passage apply to the latter firm, or to the Windsor Arcade, Grindlay and Co., 55, Parliament-street, S.W.

TOUR IN THE MEDITERRANEAN AND LEVANT.—The ORIENT COMPANY will despatch their large full-powered steamer GARONNE, 4,550 tons register, 5,000-horse power, from LONDON, on the 12th March, for a cruise of six weeks, visiting Gibraltar, Palermo, Syracuse, Athens, Constantinople, Smyrna, Malta, and Algiers. The *Garonne* is fitted with electric lights, hot and cold baths, &c. Cuisine of the highest order. Managers: F. GREEN and Co., and ANDERSON, ANDERSON, and Co., Fenchurch Avenue, London. For further particulars apply to the latter firm, or to the West-end Agents, GRINDLAY and Co., 55, Parliament-st., S.W.

P. AND O. MAIL STEAMERS ACCELERATED THROUGH SER VICES as under:—
BOMBAY by P. and O. from London and Brindisi every week.
CALCUTTA, CEYLON, and NAPLES, by P. and O. from London every fortnight.
CHINA, STRAITS, and JAPAN by P. and O. from London, and Brindisi every fortnight.
AUSTRALIA, NEW ZEALAND TASMANIA, &c., direct by P. and O. from London and Brindisi every fortnight.
GIBRALTAR, MALTA, BRINDISI PORT SAID, and ISMAILIA. The Company despatch weekly from London one of their large well-found steamers for the above ports, and Alexandria every fortnight.
Cheap Excursion Tickets.
For particulars apply at the Offices 122, Leadenhall-street, E.C., and 25, Cockspur-street, S.W.

AUSTRALIA (from SOUTHAMPTON. Via PLYMOUTH). STEAMERS of the NORDDEUTSCHER LLOYD to ADELAIDE, MELBOURNE, and SYDNEY, calling at COLOMBO.
Express Steamship KAISER WILHELM II., 6,930 tons, 10,000 horse-power ..... Feb. 22
HOHENSTAUFEN, 7,500 tons, 2,000 horse-power ..... March 22
Calling at Port Adelaide on return nine days later. The first-named steamer is one of the largest and fastest in the Australian trade. Her saloon (on the spar deck) and state-rooms are exceptionally spacious and fitted in the most modern and luxurious style. Cuisine of the highest quality. Specially moderate fares, and liberal arrangements for children.
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MAIL STEAMERS from LONDON
CALCUTTA ..... Fortnightly
MADRAS ..... "
COLOMBO ..... "
RANGOON ..... "
MADRAS DIRECT ..... "
BAGHDAD ..... "
BOMBAY ..... Four weekly
BRISBANE ..... "
ROCKHAMPTON ..... "
ZANZIBAR ..... "
Delivering Mails, Passengers, Specie, and Cargoat Bombay for Kurrachee.
INDIA, BURMAH, EAST AFRICA, QUEENSLAND, and JAVA.
Every Company a Tropical Voyage.
Apply to GRAY, DAWES, and CO., 13 Austin Friars, E.C.; and 16, Cockspur-st., S.W.; or to GELLATLY, HANKEY, SEWELL, and CO., Albert-square, Manchester; 51, Fall Mall, and Dock House, Billiter-street.

THE ABERDEEN LINE. LONDON to AUSTRALIA, via Cape of Good Hope, in forty-two days.
Steamer. Captain. Tons. Sailing.
AUSTRALASIAN Simpson.. 3,630 .. May 6
DAMASCUS .... Douglas.. 3,703 .. June
The above favourite full-powered steamers will sail from the Royal Albert Docks for Melbourne and Sydney, taking passengers for all Australian and New Zealand ports. The accommodation for first and third-class passengers is very superior, and an experienced surgeon will accompany each vessel. Fares—Saloon, from 40 guineas; third class, from 18 guineas. For particulars apply to GEO. THOMPSON & Co., 28, Leadenhall-street, E.C.

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This volume has a special interest of its own, containing much that is new in every of new points.
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ARE universally admitted to be worth a Guinea a Box for Bilious and Nervous Disorders, such as Wind and Pain in the Stomach, Sick Headache, Giddiness, Fullness after Meals, Dizziness and Drowsiness, Cold Chills, Flushings of Heat, Loss of Appetite, Shortness of Breath, Costiveness, Scurvy and Blotches on the Skin, Disturbed Sleep, Frightful Dreams, and all Nervous and Trembling Sensations, &c. The first dose will give relief in twenty minutes. Every sufferer is earnestly invited to give them a fair trial. Sold by all druggists, and they will be acknowledged to be
WORTH A GUINEA A BOX.
For females of all ages these Pills are invaluable, as a few doses of them carry off all humours, and bring about a healthy action. No female should be without them. There is no medicine to be found equal to them for removing any obstruction or irregularity of the system.
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"For seven weeks I was in extreme danger. I had quite lost my voice, and my cough, almost painful by great pain, was excessive. The first medical advice and all else that could be thought of was without avail. At last I resolved to take a bottle of your Lung Tonic, which made a difference directly, and in a few days I was completely restored."—H. LAWSON, Moxon-street, Hull.
Prepared Only by OWBRIDGE, Hull. Sold in bottles, by all Chemists, &c., at 1s. 1½d., 2s. 9d., 4s. 6d., and 11s.

KEATING'S LOZENGES
Oldest and Best Cough Remedy.
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Chairman.—C. T. MURDOCH, Esq., M.P.
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WILLIAM T. GRANT, Secretary.

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The COMMITTEE URGENTLY APPEAL for FUNDS to carry out the much needed improvement of Resolvent Wards, £1,500 being required for this object. Donations towards this fund and annual subscriptions are earnestly solicited.
F. C. HOWARD, Secretary.

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For terms, &c., write to the Superintendent, Warrington Lodge, Warwick-road, Maida-vale, W.

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EXTRACT OF BEEF

FOR

IMPROVED AND ECONOMIC COOKERY.

Invaluable for

Flavouring, Improving,

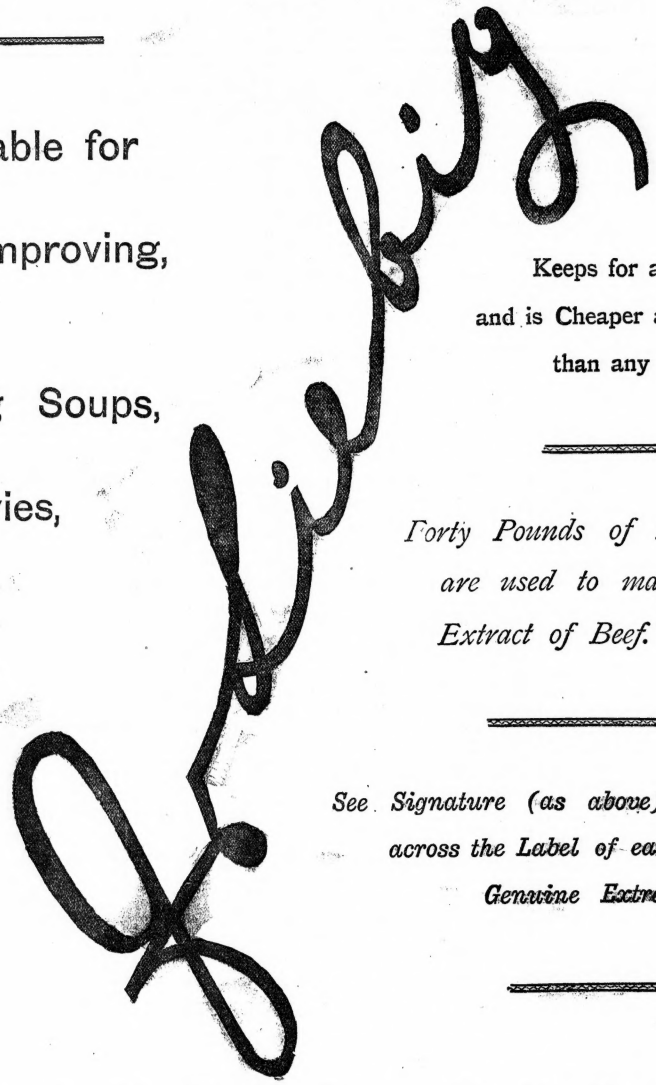
AND

Strengthening Soups,

Sauces, Gravies,

AND

Made Dishes.



Keeps for any length of time, and is Cheaper and of Finer Flavour than any other Stock.

Forty Pounds of Prime Lean Beef are used to make One Pound of Extract of Beef.

See Signature (as above) in BLUE INK across the Label of each Jar of the Genuine Extract.

COOKERY BOOKS

(Indispensable for Ladies) sent FREE on application to

LIEBIG'S EXTRACT OF MEAT COMPANY, LIMITED,

9, FENCHURCH AVENUE, E.C.

Printed and Published by THOMAS HUNT, at the Office, 2, Northumberland-street, Strand, in the Parish of St. Martin's-in-the-Fields.—TUESDAY, February 18, 1890.